

THE TIMES

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TUESDAY MAY 13 1997

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FROM £5

TOKEN
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Rivals 'would make us unelectable'

Clarke warns Tories of risk on the Right

By PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

KENNETH CLARKE delivered a stark warning to the Conservative Party last night that it would make itself unelectable like the Labour of the early 1980s if it swung to the Right and became more anti-European.

He enlivened the Tory leadership race by claiming that the stance on the single currency adopted by the other five candidates "would drive us to the political fringe both at home and in European politics."

Mr Clarke, the former Chancellor, wrote a three-page letter to Conservative MPs in which he put himself forward as the man who could defeat Tony Blair in a 2002 presidential-style election.

In response to those who argue that he is too pro-European to be the Tory leader, Mr Clarke said that while unity was essential it was not an end in itself to be secured at the expense of wider political appeal and electoral success.

He reminded MPs what happened to Labour; it chose Michael Foot in preference to Denis Healey because the latter had offended the unilateralists. But it failed to convince the voters in 1983 and cleared the way for another 14 years of Conservative rule.

He added: "I believe firmly that if the Conservative Party is perceived to be swing further to the ideological right and also to become hardline nationalist and anti-European, it will make itself unelectable."

The British people did not vote for Tony Blair because they thought the Conservatives were not sufficiently rightwing or Eurosceptic.

'The infighting and Mr Clarke's letter underline the parlous state of the party.'

— Peter Riddell, page 10

many Tory candidates rebelled at the election. Referring to his opponents Michael Howard, William Hague, Peter Lilley and John Redwood, he said that four were against the single currency in principle. Referring to Stephen Dorrell he said the fifth believed that Britain should declare that no more work should be done.

He went on: "I believe that such policies would drive us to the political fringe both at home and in European politics. It is not just that the prudent politician knows that you should never say never, nor that the public favour keeping the options open. Most of the business and financial community of this country would reject such a dogmatic and isolationist position and reject our party if we espoused it."

Mr Clarke said that Britain should remain opposed to joining the single currency "unless and until we could be satisfied on compelling evidence that it was in Britain's best interest to join."

He said: "If EMU were ever to go ahead on the Continent and if it were to be successful we would come under immense pressure to join it in the interests of British industry and commerce. Personally I doubt very strongly if both of these conditions will be satisfied in this parliament but I do not think it is sensible to rule them out for all time or for any fixed period of time."

In a final dig at the Right he said that there was "no instant ideological alternative" as Newt Gingrich and the American Republicans discovered to their cost."

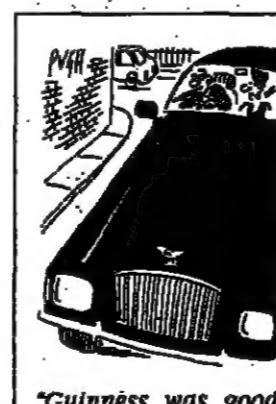
Brown charms Brussels on VAT

Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, charmed European finance ministers yesterday and won agreement for his plan to reduce VAT on heating fuel. He also quashed speculation that the Labour government could take Britain back into the exchange rate mechanism.

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GrandMet and Guinness blend

By ALASDAIR MURRAY



"Guinness was good for me"

GUINNESS and Grand Metropolitan, Britain's two leading drinks companies, announced yesterday that they are merging to create the largest wine and spirits business in the world.

The £24 billion merger plan, the biggest between two British companies, will bring brands such as Smirnoff vodka, Johnnie Walker whisky, Gordon's Gin, Guinness and Burger King under the control of one company.

The merged business, which will be known as GMG Brands, will operate in 200 countries.

The companies said yesterday that they had no immediate intention of selling off any of their businesses but the City expects that lesser brands such as Dewar whisky may be

put up for sale. The merger is likely to result in around 2,000 job losses worldwide.

Biggest merger, page 27
Pennington, page 29

Jailed jurors are cleared on appeal

Two jurors jailed for contempt for refusing to reach a verdict were cleared by the Appeal Court, which criticised the trial judge. Lord Justice Rose said Judge Coorsay should not have presided at the contempt case particularly because of the bias he had shown earlier.

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Ulster peace bid by South Africa

The South African Government has invited the political parties involved in Northern Ireland, including Sinn Fein, to attend a conference on conflict resolution at the end of this month. The move was welcomed by the British and Irish Governments.

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By DARESH GREGORIAN

A BRITISH Airways Boeing 747 carrying more than 300 passengers had to return to Gatwick after the crew feared a door was going to fly open in mid-air, it was disclosed yesterday.

The problem began immediately after take-off when the door handle started to spin open, a report by the Air Accident Investigation Branch says. Two cabin crew of the Nairobi-bound

plane gripped hold of the handle to stop it from flying open. The door was whistling from the top and bottom of the door and the plane climbed to 21,000ft.

The crew then secured the door using looped-together seat belts. When the crew called Gatwick for advice, engineers said: "Let go of the handle to see where it stops."

The crew disregarded the advice because they feared "not only for the

integrity of the door but for the pressurisation of the aircraft" and the pilot headed back to the airport.

Spokesmen for Boeing, British Airways and the Civil Aviation Authority said there were security precautions would have made it nearly impossible for the door to come open during the flight. The report said the chances of door flying open were "close to zero" and that "regardless of the handle position" the airflow forces "would not

cause the door to fully open". An airline spokesman said last night: "We have put measures in place to make sure a similar thing does not happen again."

■ About 249 BA passengers who were evacuated from an aircraft in Puerto Rico when one of the engines caught fire were scheduled to fly to London on a replacement jet last night. About a dozen passengers were slightly hurt in the incident on Sunday.

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INSTRUMENTS FOR PROFESSIONALS



Susie Maroney in Havana shortly before swimming the 112-mile Straits of Florida

Woman foils sharks in record swim to Florida

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN MIAMI

AUSTRALIA'S long-distance swimming champion, Susie Maroney, yesterday became the first person officially to swim unassisted across the 112-mile shark-infested Straits of Florida separating Cuba and the US mainland.

"I'm really happy about it," said an exhausted but smiling Miss Maroney as she stepped gingerly ashore at Key West, where a crowd of 150 greeted her. Asked how she planned to celebrate she replied: "Just to

rest." Due to tides and a strong cross current, swimming the Florida Straits is regarded as about the most arduous endurance feat a swimmer can attempt. The unassisted, uninterrupted swim means that Miss Maroney could not sleep and was not allowed to touch the cage — floated by buoys and dragged by a support vessel — during the crossing.

She was only permitted an hourly break, treading water while being fed high-protein and super-hydrating drinks, as well as occasional spoonfuls of easy-to-digest baby foods with yoghurt and

chopped bananas. Bad weather thwarted an earlier attempt by Miss Maroney last summer when she was hauled out of the water only 12 miles from the Florida coast after swimming for 38½ hours. On that occasion she became dehydrated from vomiting after rough waves made her seasick. She vowed she would never try the swim again.

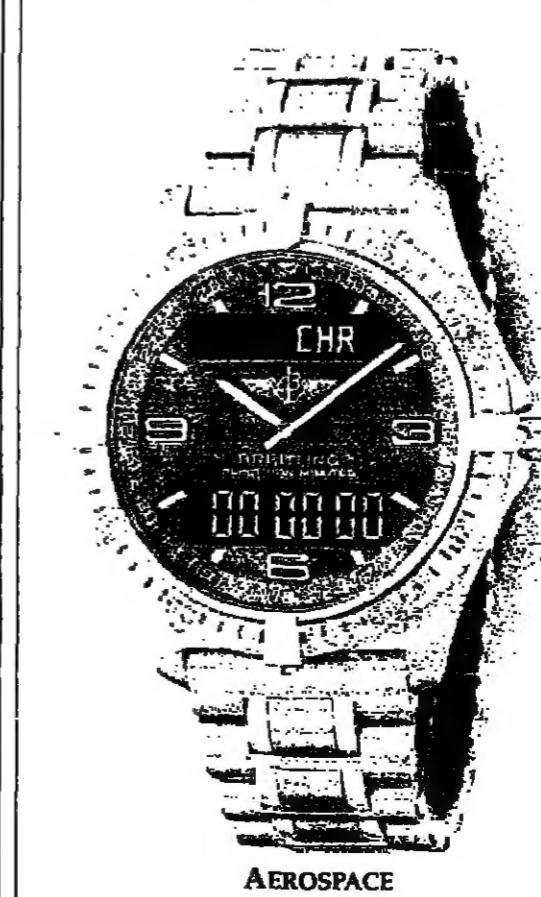
"It became a little scary," she said afterwards, recalling hallucinations of monkeys and Santa Claus in the sea alongside her.

Her second attempt was dogged by delays and Cuban bureaucracy. One of her support team was arrested and deported from Cuba because of a visa problem. Cuban authorities also briefly impounded the shark cage for 24 hours because of missing paperwork.

After a frustrating week studying satellite weather maps in Havana, conditions improved over the weekend. She made good early progress, averaging more than four miles an hour, after diving into the sea off Havana's rocky coast at midday on Sunday.

Even so, several hours after she set off, a low pressure system unexpectedly swept across the Gulf of Mexico. But the bad weather passed quickly and Miss Maroney ploughed on.

BREITLING
1924



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INSTRUMENTS FOR PROFESSIONALS

Brussels clears Brown plan to cut VAT on fuel

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

GORDON BROWN won clearance from Brussels yesterday for the Government's plan to reduce VAT on heating fuel and he quashed speculation in Europe that it could take Britain back into the exchange rate mechanism.

Mr Brown used his first foray in to the heart of the European Union as Chancellor for a display of resolve that impressed finance ministers but also made clear to them that the new Government was steering the same course as its Conservative predecessor on monetary union.

Jack Cunningham, the Agriculture Minister, was also given a warm welcome in

Brussels. After meeting Franz Fischler, the Farm Commissioner, Dr Cunningham promised a break with the antagonistic approach over "mad cow" disease and fishing but he acknowledged that there was no early prospect of an end to the EU ban on exports of British beef. The Conservative government's promise to have had the beef ban lifted by last autumn "simply beggars belief", said Dr Cunningham.

Mario Monti, the Commissioner for Taxation, backed away from confrontation over the fuel tax after Mr Brown told him the Government had a "water-tight" legal case for

keeping its promise to cut VAT on domestic heating fuel from 8 to 5 per cent. Last week, the Commission said that Labour's plan appeared to contradict the EU goal of harmonising VAT at 15 per cent. Mr Monti said yesterday that the plan "may not be in the spirit of Community legislation", but added: "I do not see any particular legal obstacle."

The Commission's retreat was in the spirit of the honeymoon in relations between Brussels and the new British Government, and the goodwill was palpable at the monthly finance council, where ministers showered compliments on Mr Brown's grasp of Euro-economic complexities.

"He has a perfect knowledge of the dossier... he was crystal-clear," said Jean Arthuis, the French Finance Minister, after Mr Brown spoke up to insist that the EU run its budget next year as strictly as Britain controls its own.

However, Mr Brown found himself at odds with Theo Waigel, the German Finance Minister, over the ERM and plans for monetary union. The Chancellor dismissed speculation that Britain could be planning to rejoin the ERM. He insisted that membership was not a pre-condition for joining the single currency.

According to the Maastricht treaty, two years of ERM membership is required as a membership condition but the point has been disputed since Britain and Italy left in 1992.

Mr Waigel insisted that Germany was sticking to the rule. Britain's non-membership of the ERM would be a "problem" if it decided that it wanted to join monetary union at its launch in January 1999, he said. Gerrit Zalm, the Dutch Finance Minister, whose government holds the EU presidency, said that this was open to dispute.

Last week Tony Blair agreed that his Cabinet should address each other on first-name terms. Now he is considering extending the same informality to the chamber.

The committee is also expected to look at the need to avoid time-consuming amendments to legislation by publishing draft laws which can be considered before debate.

The Commons timetable is also expected to change. Business managers think the summer recess is too long and MPs should be allowed a week off at some other time.

Leading article, page 19

Letters, page 19

MPs to lose their honour in name of informality

BY JILL SHERMAN, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE antiquated practice of addressing MPs in the Commons as "My Right Honourable friend" or even "My Right Honourable and gallant friend" is under threat after government moves to modernise parliamentary procedures.

Traditions such as the need to wear a hat if MPs want to raise a point of order when a vote is being held, or the custom of crying "I spy strangers" when MPs want journalists to leave the press gallery, may also be abolished. Whips may no longer be able to physically force MPs into the correct division lobby to vote, and backbenchers may be able to vote by pressing a button on a portable computer.

The Government wants to streamline procedures to speed up legislation and to remove old fashioned practices that have little purpose, make MPs look ridiculous and the Commons farcical. But government sources are aware that being overzealous in stamping out "quaint" practices could make the Commons extremely te-

dious. "We are trying to modernise the Commons without making it dull," a Whitehall official said.

The first step was to change Prime Ministers' questions to a half an hour session on Wednesday's. But next week the Government will set up an all-party select committee to review a range of parliamentary procedures, including how people should be addressed and how they should vote.

Last week Tony Blair agreed that his Cabinet should address each other on first-name terms. Now he is considering extending the same informality to the chamber.

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Leading article, page 19

Letters, page 19



Ann Widdecombe at Westminster yesterday: she denied that her statement on Mr Howard was driven by pique

Widdecombe to go ahead with Commons attack on Howard

ANDREW PIERCE

ANN WIDDECOMBE has appealed to the Speaker to allow her to make a personal statement criticising the Tory party leadership, contend Michael Howard on the floor of the Commons. She ignored a plea from Peter Lilley, who is supporting in the leadership contest, to stay silent.

A personal statement, which would revive memories of Sir Geoffrey Howe's personal statement in November 1990 which triggered the downfall of Margaret Thatcher, could damage Mr Howard badly.

Aides of the former Home Secretary spent yesterday fighting to stop the threatened disclosures from his former deputy, about his dismissal of Derek Lewis, the director-general of the prison service, from engulfing his campaign.

Charles Wardle, another former ministerial colleague, confirmed yesterday that he was seeking to raise in the Commons a report by the Department of Trade and Industry into the takeover of the House of Fraser by Mohamed Al Fayed. A debate before the leadership contest could cause further harm for Mr Howard.

Miss Widdecombe last night denied that she was motivated by personal pique. "I have psyched myself up to do this for 18 months. I have agonised over it. Of course it is not pique," she said.

It emerged yesterday that Mr Lilley had asked Miss Widdecombe not to wage a public campaign against Mr Howard.

Mr Lilley's supporters fear it could trigger a backlash against them. But Miss Widdecombe said: "I reached my decision to speak out before Peter Lilley put himself forward. It is nothing to do with him."

As the bookmakers continued to make William Hague the favourite, friends of Stephen Dorrell toughened up their rhetoric against the young pretender. They portrayed the 46-year-old former Home Secretary as the family candidate. By contrast they pointed to the inexperience of William Hague, 36.

Asked the biggest difference between the two contenders, a friend said that Mr Dorrell, who has three children, had more ministerial and business experience. He added: "He is ten years older. He has a family. That makes him a more rounded individual than William. William has a great future under whoever

leads the party." Mr Dorrell also hopes to pick up support from Mr Howard in the fallout from the intervention of Miss Widdecombe who could speak for up to ten minutes without interruption in a packed chamber.

She decided a personal statement was the most effective means of communicating her grave doubts about Mr Howard's handling of a number of issues such as the dismissal of Mr Lewis. "It could finish Michael Howard," one Tory MP said last night.

Friends of Miss Widdecombe said that she feared a letter to John Major, who was her original plan, would not be so succinct. A speech and consultation would enjoy legal immunity, a letter to the party leader would not.

Mr Howard's supporters said he was relaxed about the attacks. "They realise Michael is a very strong candidate who needs to be stopped. People recognise that he is at the front of the pack," one supporter said.

Mr Howard sought yesterday to cast himself as the successor to the Thatcher legacy. In an article for an Internet news service he rejected the depiction of Thatcherism as a selfish ideology.

Protesters celebrate demise of road plan

Anti-roads protesters were claiming victory last night after a council decided to scrap a road-widening scheme because of a lack of government funding. Protesters emerged from their tunnels and climbed down from treehouses to celebrate at Stringer's Common in Surrey.

There was a carnival atmosphere at the woodland site on the A320 between Guildford and Woking when the 50 green protesters learnt that Surrey County Council had abandoned the ten-year project, which has cost tens of thousands of pounds.

Vouchers to go

The Welsh Office said that nursery vouchers would be scrapped for state schools in Wales from September and for private nurseries after next spring term. The money from state school vouchers will go directly to local authorities. The Welsh Office is to consult over its plans for private nurseries. An announcement about the phasing out of vouchers in England is expected in June.

Marksman miss

More than half the shots fired by police marksmen at armed suspects miss, according to a confidential Home Office report. Many officers failed to hit their targets even when they were less than ten metres away. In one case the suspect escaped unscathed and has never been found. The Home Office is now urging chief constables to modernise their firearms training.

Lightning death

A man died and his girlfriend was badly burned after they were struck by lightning while walking along a cliff top at Flamborough Head on the Yorkshire coast. Stuart Hobson, 22, from Leeds was killed instantly. Julia Wright, 24, also from Leeds, managed to reach a car park to raise the alarm. She was treated for burns in hospital, where she was said to be "comfortable".

Soccer defence

The world football authority Fifa and a travelling Scotland fan were given until June 13 to clarify their positions in a case over Scotland's aborted match in Estonia last October. Gerald Brady, 41, from Glasgow, is claiming £750 at Paisley Sheriff Court, saying that Fifa had a duty to ensure Estonia that turned up. Fifa, based in Switzerland, says that the Scottish court has no jurisdiction.

Silence test case

A couple are lodging with the European Commission of Human Rights the first legal challenge to Britain's laws curbing a suspect's right to silence. William and Karen Condon, convicted of dealing in heroin by Kingston upon Thames Crown Court in November 1995, declined to answer questions. The judge said the jury was entitled to draw adverse inferences.

Nepalese can stay

Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, has decided to accept a recommendation by the Immigration Appeals Tribunal that Jayaram Khadka, 20, who was adopted seven years ago by Richard Morley, a businessman who lives at Clearwell Castle in the Forest of Dean, Gloucestershire, should not be deported to Nepal. The Home Office said last night.

Mandela invites Sinn Fein to join conflict talks for Ulster parties

BY AUDREY MAGEE, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

NELSON MANDELA's government has invited Ulster political parties, including Sinn Fein, to a conference on resolving conflict. The British and Irish governments have welcomed the initiative, though they will leave attendance to party leaders rather than government officials.

The South African Government, with the approval of President Mandela, will hold a four-day conference in a remote part of the Western Cape at the end of the month. The South Africans hope that the distance from Ulster will create a relaxed environment where the opposing factions will feel more at liberty to discuss the Northern Irish problem.

The Ministry for Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development extended invitations to the Ulster Unionist Party, the SDLP, the Democratic



Paisley: refused to rub shoulders with Sinn Fein

During the 1995 Washington conference on American investment in Northern Ireland, South African embassy sources said it would be difficult to separate the parties as the conference will be held in one venue in Armistice, a

Security alert over Cabinet list mislaid at rail station

BY STEWART TENDER AND JAMES LANDALE

POLICE and Labour Party officials were yesterday investigating the discovery of a list of private telephone numbers for the Prime Minister and most of the Cabinet in a London railway station.

A sheet of paper headed "Private and Confidential" was found by an unemployed man at Euston after he went into the concourse to telephone a friend. It was in a brown envelope, beneath an Irish newspaper left on the Northern Irish platform.

The conference, which begins on May 29, is the idea of Padraig O'Malley, an Irish-American academic based at the Centre for Democracy and Development at the Massachusetts University, Boston. He has written books on the Northern Irish conflict.

The South Africans held an introductory meeting on conflict resolution for the parties in Northern Ireland two years ago. Sinn Fein did not attend on that occasion.

tion last night of the source but the numbers appeared to be genuine, although some were out of date.

Downing Street officials and Labour spokesmen refused to comment on the discovery or to say whether the numbers would be changed. One said: "We do not discuss security matters."

The apparent security breach is the first to hit the new Labour administration and will impress upon many new ministers the difference between opposition and Government. Several are getting used to police protection for the first time.

While in opposition, Labour MPs and shadow ministers were quite open with their contact numbers, especially with the media. Most were available through the party's Press Directory. However, some of the home numbers on

the list — including Mr Blair's Islington home — are kept secret.

The list was found by Jim Taylor, 33, from Tottenham, north London. He first contacted a news agency reporter with whom he was acquainted. After allowing the agency to take a copy of the list he handed the document to British Transport Police at Euston. They passed it on to Labour Party headquarters.

Mr Taylor said: "I realised the newspaper it had been under was an Irish one with a green logo. I kept thinking that some terrorist had left it there by mistake and was probably looking around the phone for it. I had visions of what he would do to me if he caught up with me. I felt absolutely terrified."

Police are understood to be studying closed-circuit TV footage of the station.

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Bank's 'token black' was fired after complaining

By LIN JENKINS

A HIGH-EARNING merchant banker wept yesterday as he said that he was hired — and then fired — for being black. James Curry, a Harvard graduate, said he was a "token black face" but was dismissed after complaining of racism.

Mr Curry, 43, an American, told an industrial tribunal that all had gone well at first when he joined Goldman Sachs as a services salesman from another bank in 1990. His first-year salary of £240,000 rose to about £660,000 in 1992 and £800,000 in 1993.

The following year it slumped to £270,000. He complained and was

awarded a further £65,000 but was sacked in January last year for alleged "deteriorating performance" after complaining to partners about racism.

Mr Curry, of Cricklewood, north London, is claiming unfair dismissal and racial discrimination at Stratford, east London. He said that he had received some glowing reports — including one describing him as "a clean player of the absolutely highest calibre" — but that his manager Bruce Young made racial comments to him.

One occasion he was told that a colleague would be more suitable for certain work because "he talks and looks more like the people who would be coming from

those areas". Mr Curry said: "I remember those words as they were so offensive. I didn't know what the comment meant, but it said I would not be able to cover the account as I didn't talk like the customers. When he said I didn't look like the customers, I was in shock."

He said he thought his colour had nothing to do with business: "I thought he was crazy for actually saying that to my face." When he asked about taking over another position in London, Mr Young allegedly told him they would rather have "a UK man".

Mr Curry says that he was employed by Goldman Sachs as a token black, and that Mr Young

told him that he was not "paid to produce". He said: "There is a concern in American financial institutions to be seen to be employing black people. At that time his meaning was clear. I was given paid, he suggested, for being black."

In 1994, he was moved to another desk, under a female manager. Mr Curry said she suggested a task that would be a "great opportunity for me to dispel the notion that I was lazy".

This comment, he said, had racial overtones: "Being called lazy by someone who kept accounts away from me had all the elements of someone tying my hands behind my back and then blaming me for

not being able to use them. I felt like a rat trapped in a box."

After working on a complicated account for two months, which resulted in a £230 million transaction for the company, he was given about £400,000 commission, only 17 per cent of that to which he was entitled, he said. It is alleged that when he gained lucrative accounts for the company, he would be mixed off them.

Monica Cars-Frisk, for Mr Curry, told the tribunal: "Goldman Sachs is a very large international financial institution which is unique in one aspect — equity partnership."

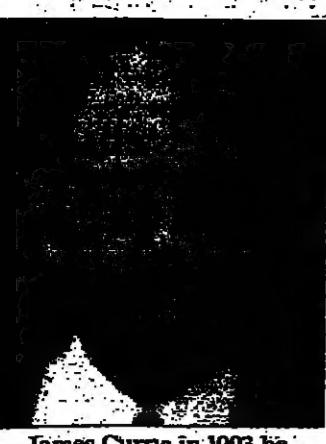
"That means that the rewards that one can get are also unique.

Mr Curry says that he has lost the opportunity of partnership because of racial discrimination.

"We say that he was discriminated against because of his racial origins. There was a continuing practice of denying him access to promotion, denying him opportunities to manage particular important customer accounts in circumstances where the customers had asked that he do so, and disproportionately reducing his remuneration."

Since leaving the firm, he has worked for Merrill Lynch as joint head of the UK desk, on a starting salary of about £560,000.

The hearing continues and is expected to last ten days.



James Curry: in 1993 he had a salary of £800,000.

Judge 'fell into a sequence of errors' after women failed to pronounce verdict

Jurors jailed for contempt are cleared on appeal

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

TWO women jurors jailed for contempt of court for refusing to reach a verdict were cleared yesterday by the Court of Appeal, which criticised the trial judge for a succession of serious errors.

Lord Justice Rose said that Judge Cooray, who jailed Bonnie Schot, 20, the jury foreman, and Carol Barclay, 32, for 30 days at Knightsbridge Crown Court had "fallen into a sequence of errors".

The appeal court quashed the contempt of court convictions which caused an uproar in March when the two women were jailed. They were freed on bail, pending appeal, after spending 24 hours in Holloway prison.

Lord Justice Rose said Judge Cooray should not have presided at the contempt case, particularly because of the bias and anger he had shown at an earlier hearing. He should have handed the case to another Crown Court judge or referred the matter to the Attorney-General.

Lord Justice Rose said that the jury was the "cornerstone of democracy" even if jury service could sometimes be irksome and require unpalatable decisions. He said that Judge Cooray himself had breached the Contempt of Court Act 1981 and long established principle by inquiring into what had happened in the secrecy of the jury room.

The two women were the first jurors believed to have been sent to prison for failing to reach a verdict since the 17th century. The jailing happened after the jury had refused to consider its verdicts against five defendants at the end of a counterfeit currency case.

The jury sent a note to Judge Cooray in which they said: "Your Honour, we are unable to come to any decisions owing to some jurors' conscious be-

iefs. Please advise." The judge asked them to return to court where he asked the foreman to explain the note. In a second note he was told that some members could not bring themselves to make a "true judgment due to our beliefs, not religious but personal".

"At the beginning of the trial before we took the oath we felt that we could not stand up in court and stress this fact. We thought that our feelings may change over time. After retiring we have found that we still feel the same and cannot give a true verdict to these jurors concerned."

The judge then demanded to know the names of the jurors who could not reach a verdict, discharged the jury and ordered a retrial, saying that the two women should return to court to face a contempt hearing. After they were re-

leased on bail Judge Cooray stood by his decision saying that jurors had to recognise their responsibilities to the criminal justice system.

Lord Justice Rose said it was doubtful that the judge should have sought written clarification of the initial note handed to him by the jury. He certainly ought not to have asked for the names of the jurors concerned. And he should not have stopped the trial without hearing submissions from counsel. He could have discharged only the two jurors concerned.

The women said after the hearing yesterday that they were afraid Lord Justice Rose, sitting with Mr Justice Forbes and Mr Justice Keene, would uphold their convictions and send them back to prison.

Miss Barclay, a nursery nurse from Shepherds Bush, west London, who claimed she had felt unable to judge other people, said after the hearing: "I was wrongly charged, wrongly tried and wrongly sentenced. Especially serious was the judge's locking me up without any warning which the Court of Appeal said was without any legal principle."

Miss Schot, from Clapham, south London, who is to study law at Guildhall University in October, said: "I am extremely relieved the matter has come to an end and I can set myself the task now of just continuing my studies."

The Court of Appeal has pointed out the many errors made by the judge. It was always my intention to try the case according to the evidence. I set myself that task, but I found it very difficult."

Earlier John Perry, QC, for Miss Schot, said that the trial judge had been guilty of "piercing the veil of the secrecy of the jury room" which should never be lifted.

Stephen Solley, QC, for



Carole Barkley and her mother, Lola, leaving the High Court after their appeal victory yesterday

Miss Barclay, told the court that "from a minor, almost routine, episode, a series of errors have laid layer upon layer of an unnecessary difficulty culminating in this hearing". He said that the case sent shock waves to potential jurors who might fear imprisonment if they had not declared in advance any personal concerns and personal conscience

to the court. The judicial system was on a "slippery slope" in which overbearing jurors might use the threat of exposure against a weak or silent juror as a weapon or secure agreement.

Jurors had the right not to agree and not to convict regardless of the state of evidence. He said that if the contempt were upheld it would amount to a first step towards the interrogation of jurors "US style".

In its judgment the Court of Appeal said: "We sympathise with the judge in having to deal with a very unusual situation." But he had fallen into a "sequence of errors".

Jury service could involve difficult challenges to the mind and emotions, but with-

it "civilised society as we know it would not survive".

Judge Cooray will automatically be sent a copy of the criticisms of the Appeal Court but will not be given an opportunity to reply to it.

A spokeswoman for the Lord Chancellor's department said there was no structure in place for Judge Cooray to discuss the remarks.

For sale: 77 Bronze Age boulders; magical atmosphere

PRIVATE buyers and museums were yesterday invited to bid for the Rollright Stones, which are believed to date from the Bronze Age.

The stones sit on one of the highest points of the Cotswolds. Their owner, Pauline Flick, said: "I have put them on the open market to see what they will fetch. They are as beautiful as any historical monument in Britain."

Mrs Flick inherited the stones from her father, who bought them in 1929, the last time they came on the market. She has always refused to put up a signpost because she does not want to attract coachloads of tourists. She hopes that the 77 unheeled boulders near Chipping

Norton in Oxfordshire will fetch up to £55,000, but says they are priceless.

English Heritage was last night considering whether to make a bid, although experts said Mrs Flick was asking too much for the stones, known as the King's Men. Local mythology has it that a witch tempted an ambitious king to take seven steps to prove himself as king and that, as he advanced towards her, she turned him to stone. A similar fate is said to have befallen his circle of soldiers and five treacherous knights.

A spokesman for English Heritage said: "Whoever buys them cannot touch the stones. They are

also obliged to adequately care for the stones which are not in the most accessible spot for tourists."

"We are in discussion with Mrs Flick and hope we can come to an agreement to protect what is a marvellous monument, if not quite Stonehenge Mark II."

Last night Mrs Flick said: "I have been looking after them for 27 years — I think that is long enough. I have other things to get on with. My father bought them as part of the Rollright estate. The estate was sold during the war but he kept the stones. I want to hand them over to someone who will look after them but not commercialise them."

Mrs Flick, who lives in the

nearby village of Little Rollright, has been charging 30p for adults and 20p for children to enter the beauty spot, where plays are staged and weddings held during the summer. The proceeds go to charity. Stonehenge charges £3.70 for adults.

Martin Palmer, director of the Sacred Land Project, said that the Rollright site was "among the top ten of standing-stone sites".

Mrs Flick's agent, Martin Elliott, expects museums, castles and English Heritage — which provides a management grant to the site — to bid for the stones. He said that the sale should be finalised by August.

English Heritage said: "It's not

the sort of site you can charge a lot to enter but it should be preserved. Like Stonehenge, the experts have no idea why it was built. This is part of the magic and the mystery as to why they were put up."

It is recorded in Anglo-Saxon chronicles as Hrola Landri — the land of the Saxon farmer Hrola. In 1180, Rollright was listed with Stonehenge as among 36 "Marlins of Britain".

The 16th-century antiquarian Camden claimed that the Rollright Circle had been constructed by Rollo the Dane. John Aubrey, a 17th-century antiquarian, concluded that Rollright was a Druid Temple. Aubrey's friend Ralph

Sheldon carried out the only recorded excavation of the site, but uncovered nothing.

Archaeologists are convinced that the Rollright Stones and other circles are considerably older than the Druids and a Bronze Age date of between 1500 and 2000 BC is more likely.

Local legend claims that it is impossible to count the stones because you can never tell which one you started with.

Mr Elliott accepts that, even by the standards of estate agents' hyperbole, the sale of the Rollright Stones will take some beating.

Photograph, page 26

Home improvements

second mortgage

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Relatives believe family of British secret agent in Lebanon were killed because he 'knew too much'

MALCOLM GRIFFITHS

Inquest fails to solve riddle of spy murders

By RUSSELL JENKINS

THE murderer of the wife and three children of a British businessman who spied for the CIA in Lebanon may never be known after a coroner said yesterday that the matter was "for others to pursue".

The family of Ian Spiro, 46, who assisted Terry Waite before his kidnap and was one of Colonel Oliver North's agents, claim that he, his British wife Gail, 42, and three children Sara, 16, Adam, 14, and Deana, 11, were killed either by the CIA or assassins from the Middle East.

American police officers believe Mr Spiro shot his family dead at their rented home in San Diego before taking cyanide because his \$5 million (£3 million) debts had made him mentally unbalanced.

The inquest at Whitehaven in Cumbria yesterday was the first public examination of the deaths of Mrs Spiro and the children five years ago.

Mr Spiro's mother-in-law, Margery Bruskin, and his wife's half-brother, Kenneth Quarton, wrote to the coroner saying they believed Mr Spiro was silenced either by a CIA human or assassins sent by a Middle East faction because he knew too much. Mr Spiro had told them before his death that his life was in danger and that he had received disturbing telephone calls.

Eugene Douglas, who was US ambassador to Britain during the Reagan administration, told the inquest in written evidence that Mr Spiro was recruited by the CIA and possibly MI6 during the 1970s because of his extensive contacts among the Shia Muslim community in Lebanon.

Mr Spiro's knowledge and friends in Beirut were thought to be useful at a time when the hostage crisis was deepening.

Shortly before his death, Mr Spiro telephoned Mr Douglas and told him that he had received a video of the interrogation of the American hostage William Buckley by his captors. This he described as his insurance policy.

Mr Douglas later refused Mr Spiro's plea to talk to the head of the CIA when it refused to renew his contract. But after his death there was international concern that



Terry Waite, left, and Oliver North. Mr Spiro was said to have influential contacts in the Middle East

documents believed to be at his home could have "major implications in the Middle East", Mr Douglas said.

Mr Spiro was known by his associates simply as John Smith but was often referred to as James Bond because of his clipped English accent.

Mr Spiro had a number of meetings with Mr Waite, the Archbishop of Canterbury's envoy, giving him introductions to leading members of the Shia Muslim community.

Mr Spiro's family claimed Mr Waite had endangered his life by revealing his work in the Lebanon to a BBC *Panorama* journalist. In a letter read to the court, Mr Waite said it never been his practice to reveal the names of those who assisted him in his hostage work and that he never spoke of Mr Spiro's contribution.

Mr Spiro and his family moved to a plush rented house in Santa Fe when his business as an international commodities broker was already collapsing. The bodies of Mrs Spiro and her children were found by family friends in their beds on November 5 1992. They had been shot twice each at close range with a .357 Smith & Wesson revolver which had been loaned to Mr Spiro by a lawyer friend, the sheriff's department found.

Blood on a bathrobe worn by Mr Spiro came from his youngest daughter Dina and his bloody fingerprint was found on the door to her room.

"It is evident that Ian Spiro killed his family and then committed suicide. Case closed. Suspect deceased," the US police report concluded.

hidden in a nearby rock. They contained the rambling thoughts of a man, suggested clinical psychologist Dr Daniel O'Roarty, who was clearly unbalanced. He had bought a ouija board in a last attempt to buy his way out of his financial problems by calling on dark forces to tell him the number of the Californian state lottery.

They concluded that Spiro killed his family when the banks, credit card companies and other debtors started pressing for repayment of debts totalling \$5 million.

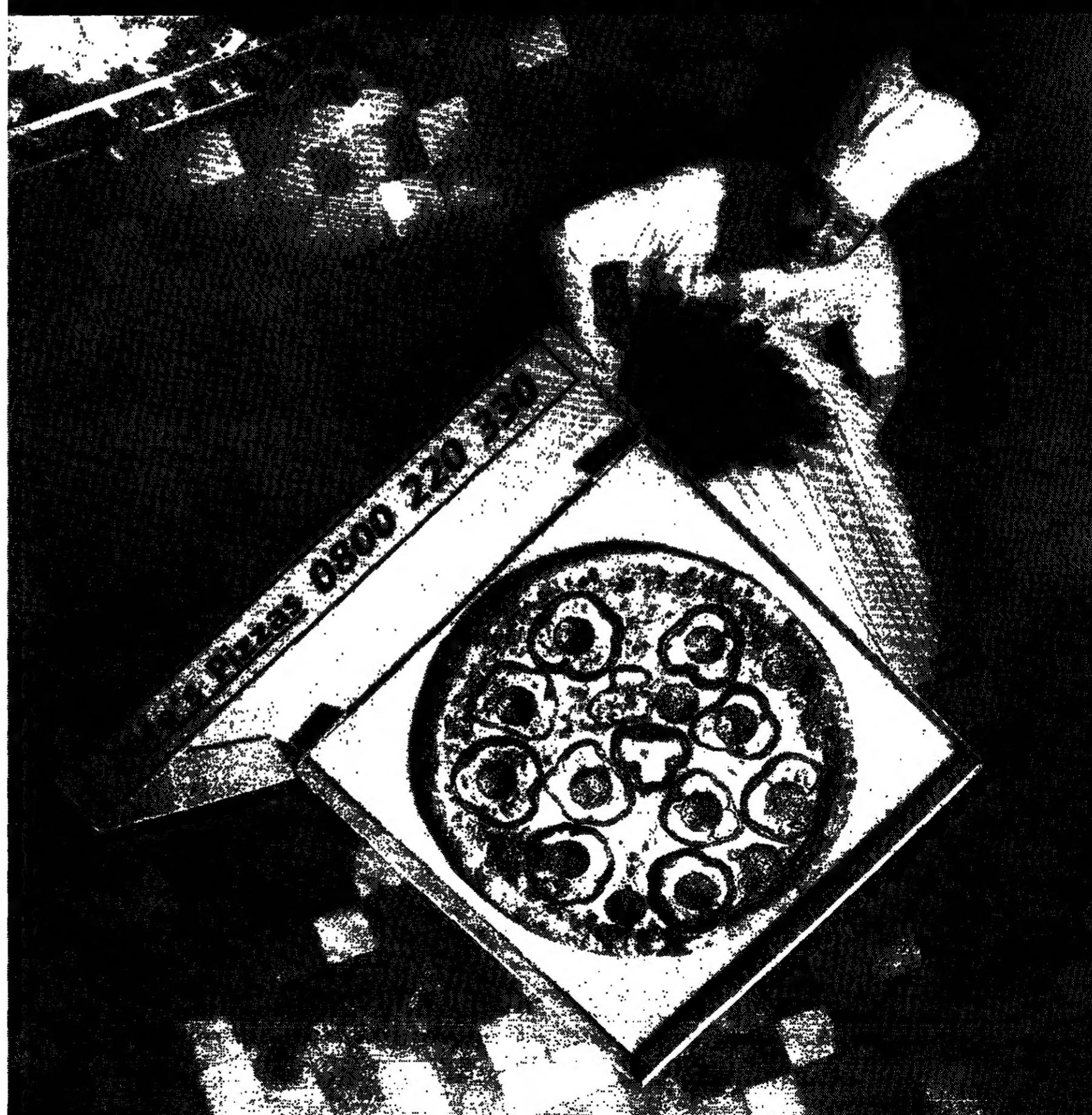
John Taylor, the coroner, recorded a formal verdict that Mrs Spiro and the children were unlawfully killed. But he refrained from recording a verdict about the dead man because his body was cremated in America, and therefore was not eligible for an inquest in this country.

None of the family were at the hearing. They are understood to be pursuing further investigations into the deaths.



Mr Spiro with a woman believed to be his wife before she was found shot dead in their home in Santa Fe

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Divorced father 'killed rival after CSA seized pay'

By TIM JONES

A DIVORCED father of four who was being pursued by the Child Support Agency murdered his former wife's new husband in a frenzied knife attack when nearly half his monthly wages were seized for maintenance arrears, a court was told yesterday.

Orlando Pownall, for the prosecution, said that John Reid had earlier rung the agency to say he would kill William Pigg, husband of his former wife, Patricia, if the deductions were made. Mr Reid, 54, had also written to the agency saying: "You are being used. This situation has the potential to have a very tragic outcome."

Mr Pownall said the dispute over payments for the upkeep of their youngest daughter, now aged 10, had ended in tragedy when Mr Reid had confronted Mr Pigg at his home in west London. A doorstep argument had ended with Mr Reid stabbing Mr Pigg, a council administrator, ten times with a kitchen knife, he told the Old Bailey.

He said Mr Reid, a Heathrow airport worker from Hampton, west London, had shouted "Die you bastard, die" as he struck his victim.

After the Reids had divorced, his former wife contacted the Child Support Agency in 1993, seeking maintenance for their youngest daughter.

There had been "widespread and sustained criticism of the CSA", Mr Pownall said, but the agency's actions "good, bad or indifferent" did not give Mr Reid an excuse for

CORRECTION

An editing error in the Scotland supplement of April 18 gave the impression that Lagavulin and Ardbeg distilleries on Islay were for sale. They are not, and we apologise for the mistake.

The case continues.

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Private buyer expected for Rothschild seat taken over by disciples of Beatles guru

Sect seeks £10m from sale of Mentmore

BY KATHRYN KNIGHT
AND JOANNA BALE

A SUMPTUOUS former family seat of the Rothschilds, which for 20 years has been devoted to the teachings of the Beatles' guru, is for sale at between £10 million and £15 million. The agents for Mentmore Towers, Buckinghamshire, are expecting a private buyer.

The Grade I listed house, set in 88 acres in the Vale of Aylesbury, boasts 50 bedrooms, a grand entrance hall and five state reception rooms. The home's third owner would be assured of an eccentric heritage. Built as an extended hunting lodge for the Rothschild family in 1852, the 100 rooms have more recently hosted followers of the transcendental meditation movement founded by Maharishi Mahesh Yogi. The Maharishi Foundation bought Mentmore for £247,000 in 1978 and is planning to build bigger, purpose-built headquarters.

The extravagant Victorian pile, with huge towers and an elaborate skyline, was designed for Baron Meyer Anschel de Rothschild by Sir Joseph Paxton, designer of the Crystal Palace, and his son-in-law, G. H. Stokes.

The Rothschild wealth, estimated at £300 million when the Queen was worth perhaps £5 million, ensured that it became a treasury of European art. Paintings by Rembrandt, Murillo and Turner, Sévres porcelain, tapestries, bronzes, Limoges enamels and priceless objects from the Doges Palace in Venice filled its rooms.

When the fifth Earl of



Coat of arms for Meyer Anschel de Rothschild



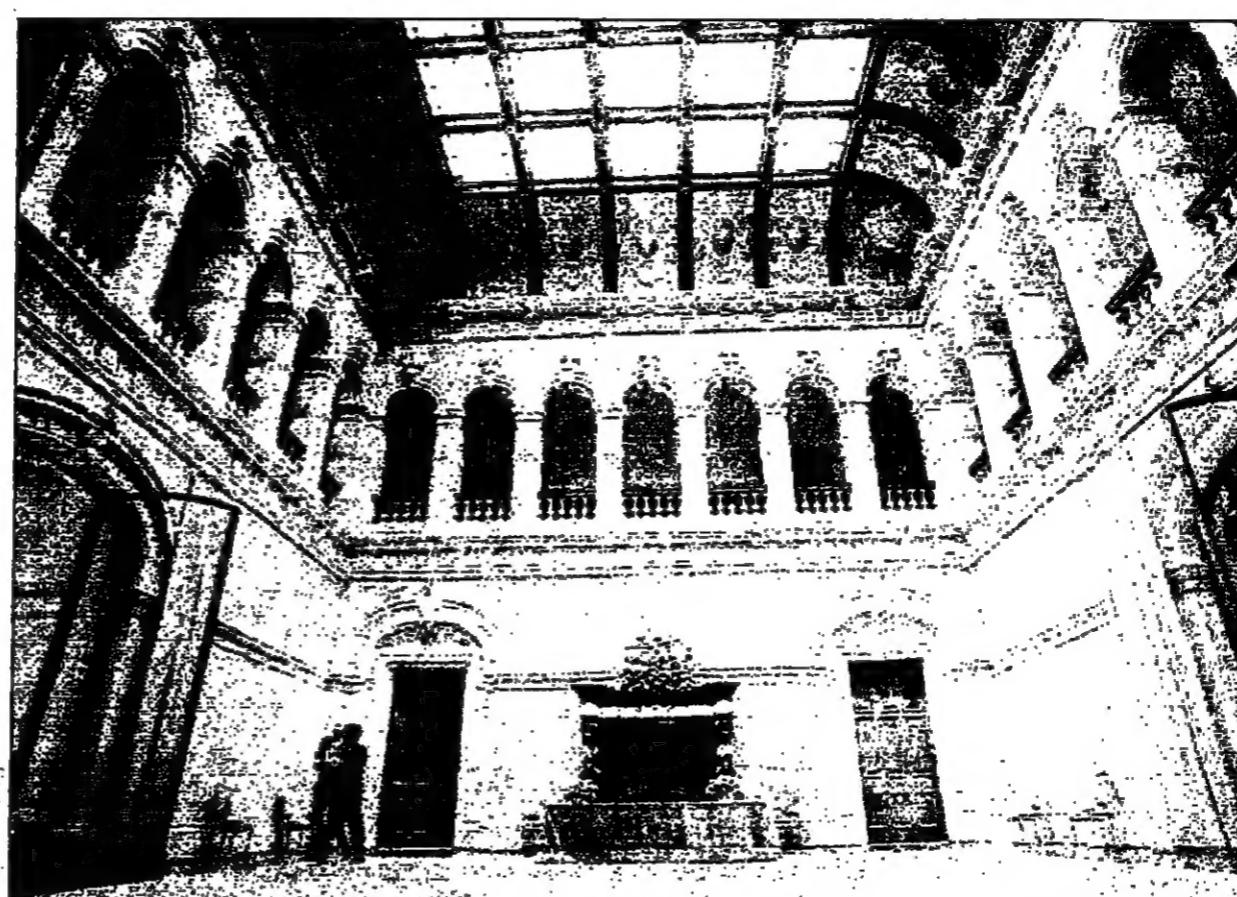
The extravagant Victorian skyline that gave Mentmore Towers its name and, below, the hall; its fireplace from Rubens's house in Antwerp is valued at £750,000

Rosebery, later a Liberal Prime Minister and racehorse breeder, married the baron's daughter, Hannah, in 1878, he expanded the collection, which became one of the richest and most remarkable in private hands.

Many of the contents were auctioned in 1977 when the then owner, the 7th Earl of Rosebery, faced huge death duties on the death of his father. He had offered the house to the Government in lieu of £4.5 million, but despite a campaign to save it for the nation, Peter Shore, who was the Environment Minister, turned it down. The auction, dubbed the Sale of the Century, followed.

Nevertheless, the new owner need not fear being short of treasures and antiquities. The fireplace in the vast Italianate entrance hall was taken from Rubens's house in Antwerp and is estimated to be worth £750,000.

Panelling in the dining room was imported from the royal Hotel de Villars in Paris and is lined with 16th-century Genoese velvet, mirrors with ornate gilt frames and Vanloo paintings. Around the hall runs a



Bittern is not booming after harsh winter

BITTERNS, already among Britain's rarest birds, have suffered a sharp decline over the past winter and are now on the edge of extinction (Michael Hornby writes).

A survey by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds this year has found only 13 males. The birds are so elusive that sightings are rare — they are detected by their 'booming' mating call, similar to a distant foghorn. 'Last year we counted

22 booming males, so this is a dramatic decline,' Chris Harbard, of the RSPB, said. 'A poor breeding season last summer, followed by a severe winter, took a heavy toll. The bittern is a water bird and is soon in difficulties if it cannot find unfrozen areas in which to catch fish.'

The heron-sized bittern, *Botaurus stellaris*, joins a handful of other rare birds clinging to survival in Britain, including the wood sandpiper and the

MEDICAL BRIEFING

THE Queen Mother took the salute and made an inspection at the annual parade of the Combined Cavalry Old Comrades in Hyde Park on Sunday. Two years ago she was wheelchair-bound, but can now walk again, thanks to a hip replacement.

Every year in Britain there are 40,000 hip replacements, and a further 13,000 revision operations to replace an artificial hip joint which has worked loose. An artificial hip joint is only for life if the patient is elderly when the initial operation was done — and no longer plays tennis or cricket.

Because arthritic painful hip joints are now, rightly, being replaced at an earlier age — when people are more energetic — the average time that they last has not increased over the 30 or 40 years in which they have been routinely fitted. Great efforts have been made to find a hip prosthesis which will not work loose, but so far without success.

A report in the *Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery* suggests that the secret of obtaining a longer-lasting new hip joint may lie in finding a way to strengthen the soft cancellous bone which exists inside the hard outer casing of a bone.

Hormone replacement therapy is not the only way of

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Woolwich Premier 90 (90 Day Notice)	N/A	3.50%	4.20%	4.80%	5.10%	5.90% ^{††}
Nationwide Capitalbuilder 90 Day	4.00% [†]	4.30%	4.50%	4.80%	5.10%	5.10%

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NEWS IN BRIEF
Rider offers reward to catch thugs

The international show-jumper Monica Campbell has offered £1,000 for information to identify thugs who tied a pony to a Gateshead railway track and set its mane on fire. Passers-by rescued Bobby, a Shetland belonging to Anthony Flax, aged 4. Ms Campbell, of Hartfield, Sussex, former winner of the British ladies championship, said: 'If this helps bring these people to justice, it will be well spent.'

Murder charge

A sixth man appeared in court charged with the murder of a Roman Catholic in Portadown, Co Armagh. Rory Robinson, 25, a fitter and welder, was remanded in custody. Robert Hamill was attacked on April 27 and died last week.

Trial dropped

Scott Bailey, whose partner died during intercourse, is not to be tried for manslaughter. Judge Denison told the Old Bailey. Andrew McPhail's heart stopped because of compression to his neck. He had taken amyl nitrate, a misused heart drug.

Moth warning

Holidaymakers at Portland, Dorset, are being told to guard against the brown tussock moth, which sheds barbed hairs that can cause itchy skin. The council has asked English Nature to eradicate the orange-spotted colonisers.

True crime tour

'Mad' Frankie Fraser, who has spent 40 of his 73 years in jail, launched a £25-a-head coach tour of east London gangland, calling at the Krays' former territory, notorious pubs and the Old Bailey. 'True crime is part of the national heritage,' he said.

Deer ride

A young deer found itself in a passenger seat on a school bus near Chippenham, Wiltshire, after it leapt a hedge and went through the windscreen. The driver suffered shock and a vet treated the stunned deer. There were no other passengers.

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Adventure
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Espresso
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Family
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Cook makes grand entrance for role on the world stage

BY MICHAEL BINION, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

FRECEDED by a slick, fast-moving film of British achievements backed by music that sounded like *Chariots of Fire*, Robin Cook strode into the Victorian splendour of the Foreign Office Locarno Room yesterday to introduce his team to the press and his policies to the world.

Comparing new Labour to a modern business, the Foreign Secretary presented his long-awaited mission statement. In it, he signalled a tough line on human rights, curbs on arms exports, a commitment to put the global environment at the heart of foreign policy and measures to promote exports, boost jobs and inject more business experience into the Diplomatic Service.

The images of British success flashed across a massive high-tech triptych: soldiers helping Bosnian refugees, Eurostar racing into the Channel Tunnel, sleek British models purring down the catwalk, brokers furiously dealing wealth in the City of London.

Labour's first press conference was a stunning display. Quick-changing film clips lit up the themes that were shortly to be laid out in Mr Cook's statement. All the achievements were there — the oil rigs, racing cars.

The Government would

give new momentum to arms control and disarmament, and had already announced support for a ban on landmines.

Mr Cook underlined Labour's eight-point plan on arms exports, published before the election, which outlined tough criteria for the arms trade. He said that Britain's position as one of the world's leading arms exporters meant that it had to show responsibility and ensure that the trade was properly regulated.

The Foreign Secretary outlined two priorities for the British presidency of the European Union, which begins in January: removing remaining barriers to trade within the single market and getting talks on enlargement "off to a flying start".

He said that unlike the Tories Labour could offer a Government "with a secure majority at Westminster and a strong leader in Downing Street, able to seize the opportunity to shape the direction in Europe."

As a prerequisite to European Union enlargement, Mr Cook insisted that the Common Agricultural Policy must be reformed. It must move away from subsidies on production and output to a system for the proper management of the countryside. Labour

would advocate being tough on waste.

He repeated Labour's caution of a single currency, saying that it was unlikely that Britain would join in the first wave. But Labour would not try to sabotage the preparations for the euro during the British presidency. "We shall honourably seek to facilitate

what other members of the EU may wish to do themselves."

The five strategic aims outlined in the statement are to:

□ Make Britain a leading player in a Europe of independent states;

□ Strengthen the Common wealth;

□ Strengthen our relationships in all regions of the world.

effective action in achieve peace and combat poverty;

□ Increase respect and goodwill for Britain among the peoples of the world, drawing on the assets of the British Council and the BBC World Service;

□ Strengthen our relationships in all regions of the world.

□ Use Britain's status as the United Nations to secure more



Robin Cook during his video-enhanced press conference at the Foreign Office

Ashdown strengthens his frontbench team

PADDY ASHDOWN has appointed a full team of Liberal Democrat spokesmen for the first time in more than 50 years thanks to the big increase in the party's strength at Westminster (Polly Newton writes).

The party won 46 seats, up 20 on their pre-election total. Mr Ashdown has left his frontbench team almost untouched. Archie Kirkwood, Chief Whip since 1992, has decided not to stand for re-election to the post. Paul Tyler (North Cornwall) is the only nominee. Mr Tyler's former job of agriculture and rural

affairs spokesman goes to Charles Kennedy (Ross, Skye and Inverness West).

Menzies Campbell, the frontbench spokesman on foreign affairs and defence, will take over Mr Kennedy's European brief. Mr Kirkwood becomes frontbench spokesman on social security and welfare.

The health team, which will continue to be led by Simon Hughes (Southwark and Bermondsey), includes a former hospital doctor, Evan Harris (Oxford West and Abingdon), and a former GP, Peter Brand (Isle of Wight).

Labour MPs take survival course

BY JILL SHERMAN
CHIEF POLITICAL
CORRESPONDENT

LABOUR'S 182 new MPs are

to be given counselling sessions over the next few weeks on how to behave in the Commons and how to deal with political journalists.

Senior whips are to hold a series of induction meetings with groups of 20 to 30 new MPs. Today all 182 will be told at a London conference how they need to start working now to ensure that they keep their seats at the next general election.

The counselling sessions will be informal gatherings

where MPs will get tips on how to avoid gaffes, mishaps and confusion at Westminster.

Backbenchers will be told how

to act in the Commons Chamber — to cheer rather than clap (as they did on their first day in the Chamber last week) and when and how to table parliamentary questions.

Experts will go through the minutiae of parliamentary procedures and the whipping system.

One of the sessions will be

on the workings of the lobby, which enables MPs to talk to journalists on a non-attributable basis. The lobby lunch — a private gathering of MPs or ministers and one or more journalists — is a minefield

of which MPs will be warned.

MPs will also be given practical advice on finding their way around the Commons maze of committee rooms, restaurants and bars.

Labour intends that its MPs will be making good use of this information and advice for many years to come.

Today's conference will focus on the need to work hard as a constituency MPs to ensure success at the next general election.

The main message will be the need to keep busy in the constituency and to organise effectively. The new

MPs will be told to build on contacts made during the general election, particularly in

new Labour constituencies.

They will also be told to maintain good liaison with the local press.

Most MPs will have been

sent a set of "Big Brother"

instructions telling them how

to find accommodation and how to hire staff and advising them to inform bank managers of the likely need for an overdraft. A document was sent to all candidates about six months ago to warn them of what to expect if they were elected. The whips have compiled a list of suitable hotels for MPs who have nowhere permanent to live, and a file of people who want to work for Labour MPs.

new Labour constituencies.

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instructions telling them how

to find accommodation and how to hire staff and advising them to inform bank managers of the likely need for an

overdraft. A document was

sent to all candidates about six

months ago to warn them of

what to expect if they were elected. The whips have compiled a list of suitable hotels for MPs who have nowhere permanent to live, and a file of people who want to work for Labour MPs.

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instructions telling them how

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مكانت الأجل

Clarke's casual style belies his serious intent

PETER RIDDELL
ON POLITICS

KEN Clarke has been the odd man out among the six Tory leadership contenders.

He has had no formal launch for his campaign, has given no interviews about his inner self, has written no articles about the way ahead, has not been eagerly courting the press and has not published lists of supporters. MPs and journalists wonder whether Ken is being his usual casual self? They are wrong.

Mr Clarke is deadly serious about the context as he is about the future of his party.

There is an organised Clarke campaign. Yesterday he raised his profile by sending a letter to MPs. But

he is fighting in a very different way. This is partly his personal style. He dislikes the current soap opera with rival candidates making anodyne statements. He believes this is not sustainable over several weeks. So he and his team of a dozen or more MPs are concentrating on direct personal contacts, what the Americans call retail rather than wholesale politics.

The former Chancellor is anyway in a different position from his rivals, who are all fighting over similar ground. He has a long track record and a distinctive stance. He is seeking support on grounds of experience and electability, as the best person to take on Tony Blair in the Commons and in the country. Reassuringly, his main public interviews since the election have been as Shadow Chancellor in commanding upon the actions of Gordon Brown.

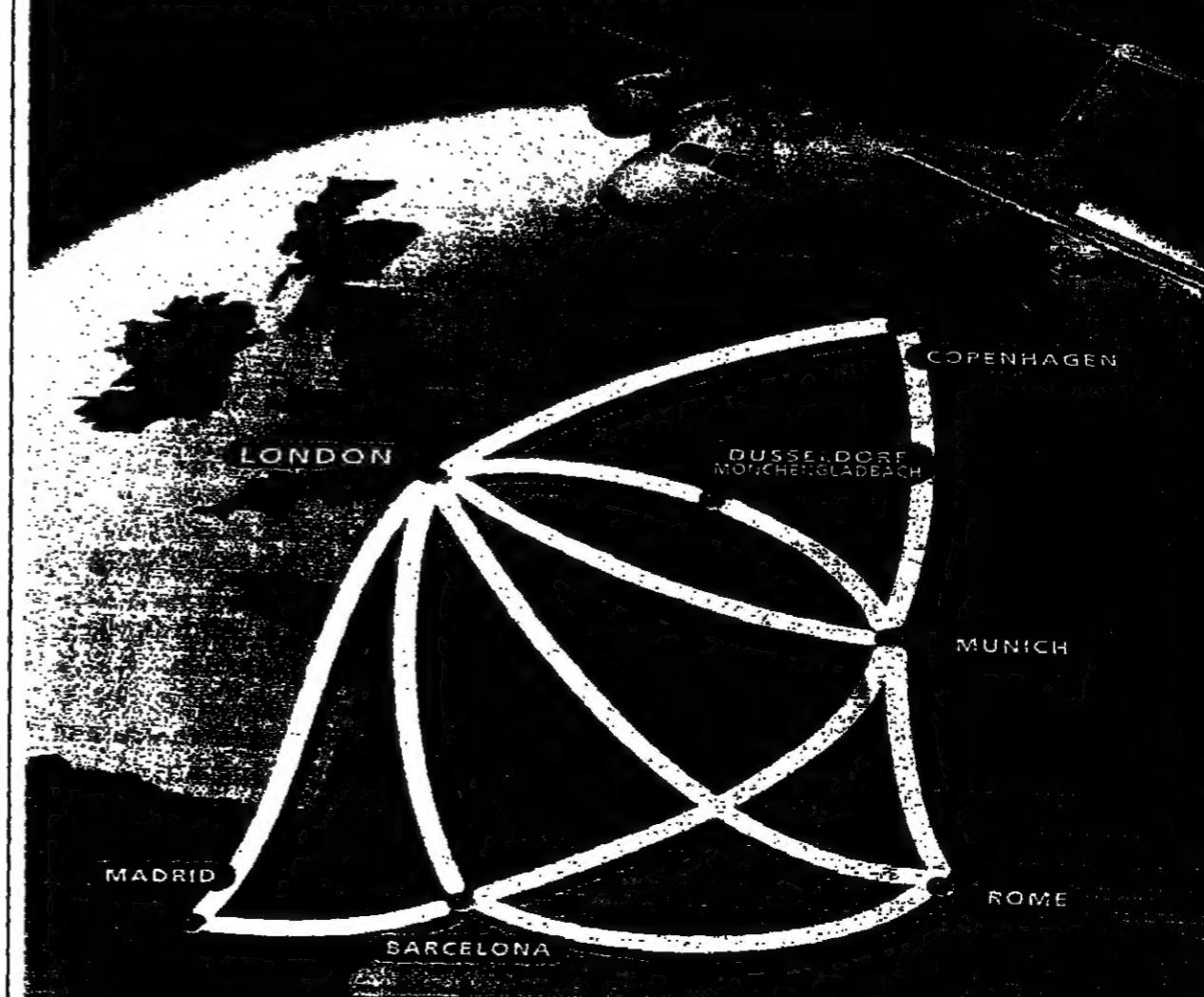
Mr Clarke's problem is, of course, to avoid being labelled as a wild pro-European, in the ugly jargon a Euro-phile. In his letter, he portrays himself as a politician of the Centre-Right who has been at the heart of the Conservative revolution and who rejects further transfers to the EU. He argues that if the party is perceived to swing further to the ideological right, and also to become more nationalistic and anti-European, it will make

itself irrelevant.

PETER RIDDELL

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Bonn police struggle to halt gang warfare

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

POLICE yesterday surrounded a funfair outside Bonn in an attempt to stop yet another outburst of gang warfare between young ethnic German emigres from Russia and Turkish teenagers.

The fighting on Saturday and Sunday night — with knives, gas guns and baseball bats — caused dozens of injuries and, police said, threatened to continue after dark last night.

Gang wars have been waged in many German cities without attracting much notice outside the casually warded of local hospitals. But this particular clash, in the town of Euskirchen, near Bonn, coincided with the latest national crime statistics which show a rapid rise in numbers of young violent offenders.

The result yesterday was appeals for greater police powers, tougher action on younger teenagers who go unprosecuted and some nervous rumination about the role of foreigners in German society. More than 18 per cent of crimes committed by minors last year were ascribed to foreign youths.

The figures for 1996 show that juvenile offences are the fastest growing aspect of crime in Germany. About 131,000 children were caught committing crimes last year. Half of them were shoplifters but the police also noted a sharp increase in violent crime by minors, especially in eastern Germany.

The funfair war in Euskirchen is typical: it began as a drunken brawl between 30 ethnic Germans from Russia and a group of Turks. After a Turk's face was slashed, reinforcements were called, and by the end of Saturday night more than 200 people were in a battle with the same

number of police trying to separate the gangs. The performance was repeated on Sunday.

The youth gangs sometimes fight for territory — especially in dormitory suburbs — and sometimes for control of drug distribution.

The resentment between ethnic Germans and Turks is directly related to Germany's citizenship laws. Ethnic Germans emigrating from the east are given automatic German citizenship if they can prove their German heritage. Many, however, speak little or no German. Turks often speak fluent German, having grown up in the country, yet are denied citizenship. The tribal wars in Germany vary, from skinheads versus punks or anarchists in balaclavas, to rival football fans, or west Berlin youths against easterners.

Steffen Helmmann, the Justice Minister of Saxony, is one of many calling for tougher action. "I don't know if it's right that one should apply again and again juvenile law against 18 to 21-year-olds. I think that such cases should now become the exception."

Herr Helmmann also called for the quicker processing of arrested offenders so that there are more places in detention centres for young suspects. At present, because of a lack of prison space, many young offenders are allowed to live at home while awaiting trial. Some police officers are also appealing for lowering of the age of criminal prosecution to 14 years.

Even in sleepy Bonn, Georg Classen, the chief of police, has noted a wave of youth crime. "Kids are holding flick-knives at the throats of their schoolmates in order to snatch a Gameboy."



Moshe Dayan: regarded the Israeli capture of the Golan Heights from Syria as one of his biggest mistakes

Golan 'was taken for farmland'

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

ISRAEL seized the Golan Heights from Syria in the 1967 Six-Day War because Israelis wanted it for farmland, according to a newly published interview with Moshe Dayan, the former Defence Minister, who died in 1981.

Dayan, the most colourful of Israel's soldier politicians, regarded the decision to allow Jews to return to the West Bank city of Hebron and the capture of the Golan Heights as his two greatest mistakes, according to Rami Tal, an Israeli journalist who interviewed the general in 1976.

Discounting claims of the strategic value of the Golan Heights, now a key platform of the foreign policy of the right-wing Government of Benjamin Netanyahu, Dayan — who was appointed Defence Minister on the eve of the 1967 war after public pressure — disclosed that Israel took the plateau from Syria for farmland.

Israeli leaders have consistently maintained that the Golan Heights are too important for anything, in the demilitarised area, and know in advance that the Syrians would start to shoot," he admitted. "If they did not shoot, we would tell the tractor to advance further."

Dayan said pressure from Israel's kibbutzim led to the land grab. "Along the Syrian border there were no farms and no refugee camps, there

was only the Syrian Army," he said. "The kibbutzim saw the good agricultural land ... and they dreamt about it."

"In two cases I did not fulfil my role as Defence Minister, in that I did not stop things that I was sure should have been stopped," Dayan said of the two events which have since been formative in shaping Israel's strained relations

only for the week-long Passover holiday. The rabbi never left and became the father of the Jewish settler movement.

Mr Tal said about 60 per cent of the interview was still unpublished because he considers most of it too personal — such as remarks about the many women in the life of the swashbuckling Dayan, who was a legendary womaniser.

Amos Eran, a government official at the time, said Dayan's regret about the Golan arose from the fact that he wanted the Heights only as a bargaining chip. "Dayan did not want the Government to allow the kibbutzim to build there — he hoped to trade it back for peace," Mr Eran said. About 15,000 Jewish settlers live on the Golan today.

Mr Tal said his revelations would clear up misconceptions about the fatal Six-Day War. "We are not always the victims. There is a myth of peaceful farmers being shot by Syrians — the truth is more ambiguous."

with the Arab world.

Dayan's politician daughter, Yael, confirmed the veracity of the interview, saying that her father seemed to regret his handling of Hebron most. Dayan said he granted permission to Moshe Levinger, a settler leader, to enter conquered Hebron on condition that the American-born rabbi, and his family, stayed

Delors emerges as popular choice for premiership

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

AS THE countdown to the French election continues with the major parties jockeying for position, the Parisian corridors of power are abuzz with the names of possible prime ministerial contenders, after June 1, including Jacques Delors, the Socialist former President of the European Commission.

The choice of prime minister resides with President Chirac, and if the Left wins outright, he would be expected to offer the job to Lionel Jospin, the Socialist Party leader. In the event of a hung parliament or if M Jospin unexpectedly declines the post, as M Chirac himself did in 1993, then a "cohabitation" with M Delors as prime minister becomes an intriguing, if distant, possibility.

M Delors has not suggested he wants the job, but appointing the man who headed the Commission from 1985 to 1995 would underscore M Chirac's commitment to European integration and assuage fears that a Socialist government, having campaigned against further austerity, would necessarily spell doom for the single currency project. It is also conceivable that, in the short term, M Jospin would rather see someone else handle the tricky, and possibly explosive, next phase in the run-up to economic and monetary union.

M Delors is the most popular



FRENCH ELECTIONS

far political figure in France, as respected as the present Prime Minister, Alain Juppé, is disliked. Relations between M Chirac and M Delors are close.

An opinion poll at the weekend showed that French business leaders would overwhelmingly favour the appointment of M Delors as prime minister if the Left were to win. Out of 350 top businessmen questioned, 53 per cent said they preferred M Delors. Their second choice, with 11 per cent, was M Jospin's daughter, Martine Aubry, the former Labour Minister, who is expected to be awarded another senior ministerial post in a Socialist government. M Jospin was only the fifth choice, with a meagre 4 per cent.

Personal reasons, however, may militate against M Delors accepting the post if he were approached. He is known to be proud of his daughter's political success, and might balk at cramping her career by presiding over a Cabinet in which she was a member.

After two weeks of polls showing the Left gaining ground, the latest surveys indicate that the centre-right coalition will hold on to a majority, albeit sharply reduced, to the task of living with the Left is one that M Chirac may yet be spared.

Whatever the outcome, M Chirac's continued tenure at the tiller, Mitterrand's departure from politics and his rivals on the right, soiling blood, are all factors.

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Dudley Moore's wife sues for \$5m

FROM GILES WHITTELL
IN LOS ANGELES

DUDLEY MOORE kept a chilly silence yesterday in response to news that his wife is suing him for \$5 million (£3 million) for allegedly beating, chasing, choking and humiliating her during their stormy three-year marriage.

The 62-year-old actor and musician, who returns to British theatre in a Southwark pantomime this year, is accused in the Californian lawsuit of mounting a campaign of verbal and physical abuse against his fourth wife, Nicole.

Mr Moore's publicist said "there is no comment and there will be no comment" on the latest twist in a relationship that appears to have been less a marriage than a long and very public dispute.

The lawsuit, filed in a Santa Monica court, alleges that "throughout the marriage, Dudley Moore assaulted and threatened to assault" his wife, verbally abusing her with terms such as "stupid" and "idiot" and once choking her almost to death.

Mr Moore demanded that Nicole, 32, dance for his sexual gratification, the suit continues, adding that he heaped further humiliation on her with claims in a recent authorised biography that she went on wild spending sprees with his credit cards, amassing bills of half a million dollars in a single year.

Mrs Moore, née Rothschild, who at 5ft 10in is eight inches taller than her husband, married him in 1994 barely a month after he was arrested, charged with assaulting her, and released. The couple frequently lived apart and Mrs Moore is reported to have spent as much time with her former husband, an Aids victim, as with Mr Moore.



Moore: accused of beating fourth wife

Sonny Bono 'harassed assistant'

FROM TONY VARADARAJAN
IN NEW YORK

SONNY BONO, the Republican congressman formerly married to the actress Cher, is facing allegations that he once made "inappropriate advances" to a young research assistant.

The charges against Mr Bono, who was elected to Congress from California in

Top woman pilot's career wrecked by adulterous affair

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

KELLY FLINN was hailed as the first woman to pilot a B52 bomber for the United States Air Force. Then she fell in love and the sky fell in on her.

Now grounded, Lieutenant Flinn, 26, will be tried by court martial next Tuesday for adultery and other charges arising from her affair with a civilian.

Lieutenant Flinn, youngest of five children of well-to-do parents, had always wanted to fly. She first took the controls of a plane at the age of 11. She attended the tough air force

academy. After graduation she was sent for B52 training that lasted six months and cost the air force more than \$1 million.

It is also a nightmare for the air force, which is being vilified for keeping public humiliation on Lieutenant Flinn over an unhappy episode in her life that could have been easily handled with quiet counselling or, at the most, a behind-the-scenes reprimand. Instead, as she puts it, she

fell in love with the wrong man. Mr Zigo was charming but later it emerged that he was on probation for beating his wife.

The lieutenant had been discovered but word leaked out. Her commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Theodore LaFlame, gave her a written order forbidding her to have any further contact with Mr Zigo. Then Mr Zigo attempted suicide. Lieutenant Flinn went to his aid and let him move into her cottage.

But as the truth about him came out, Lieutenant Flinn's troubles worsened. She had disobeyed the colonel's order. She had lied to military investigators that her relationship with him had been platonic. She has been charged, in addition to adultery, with disobeying an order, making a false statement, conduct unbecoming an officer and fraternisation. This last offence is the result of a brief fling with an unmarried airman not in her chain of command.

Lieutenant Flinn has support from high and low. Letters to her local paper in North Dakota are running heavily in her favour. One said: "I'd like to see you print an article about the next male pilot charged with adultery. Print his name and ruin his life before he has been found guilty."

She did not date fellow officers. Instead, she simply fell in love with the wrong man.

Instead, she resorted to eating dog biscuits and puppy food but still attended school after her mother, Audrey Taylor, left home on the child's birthday on January 9. At best, authorities said, the girl had only occasional visits from relatives.

Police learnt about her plight on Sunday after she turned to a neighbour, asking if she could stay with him. John Kame said Ashton arrived crying at his door.

Police said yesterday that investigators had located the mother. "It may be that the girl was unsupervised instead of abandoned, which is still

not told anyone her mother was missing because it might get her into trouble. She said she had seen her mother only once or twice since January 9.

Ashton told police she did not tell anyone her mother was missing because it might get her into trouble. She said she had seen her mother only once or twice since January 9.

According to the book, Mr Bono "constantly asked her personal questions and com-

mented on her appearance". He even tried to give her a gold ring, but she refused to accept it. After that, it appears, Ms Sandretto was relegated to "menial tasks" such as answering the telephone and opening Mr Bono's letters.

The allegations come at an awkward time for the diminutive politician, as he is reportedly considering the idea of running for the Senate.

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Lieutenant Kelly Flinn, the first female B52 pilot, who faces a court martial

Russian beauty 'killed by gangsters'

FROM JOHN CARR
IN ATHENS

THE dismembered body of a woman found near an abandoned luxury villa near Athens is that of a Russian beauty queen who apparently fell foul of a gangland feud between her compatriots, the Greek police said.

Workmen found pieces of the body of Svetlana Kotova, a former Miss Russia, stuffed into three travelling bags that appear to have been buried hastily in rough ground next to the three-storey villa.

Miss Kotova disappeared at about the same time that the villa's Russian occupant, Aleksandr Salnik — who was known in the Russian underworld as "Alexander the Great" — was found murdered in February, the police said.

Both killings took place along the so-called Apollo coast, south of Athens, on the road to Sounion, a district much sought after by the affluent. Miss Kotova was believed to have been Salnik's mistress.

The killers remain at large. The police believe they belong to at least one of three main underworld groups who operate from Russia and Kazakhstan and traffic in drugs and prostitution. Many gangsters entered the country several years ago along with several thousand ethnic Greeks, who took advantage of the break-up of the Soviet Union to return to Greece.

They stopped him working the land. So now he digs graves for children.



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De Klerk's split with heir-apparent heralds oblivion for National Party



De Klerk: stature has diminished since 1990

SOUTH AFRICA is watching bemused as the National Party, which ruled from 1948 to 1994, seems intent on tearing itself to pieces.

When F.W. de Klerk then President announced the abolition of apartheid in 1990 and won a landslide victory in a whites-only referendum on constitutional reform, his standing was so great — and was enhanced by the award of a Nobel Peace Prize — there was heady talk that his party might win a one-man, one-vote election against the African National Congress. The Nationalists certainly hoped for 35-40 per cent of the ballot and were extremely chastened to emerge ultimately as the

The party which set up, ran and then abolished apartheid now seems to be on course to destroy itself. R.W. Johnson writes from Johannesburg

second biggest party with only 20.6 per cent. Since then the party has drifted to 16 per cent in the polls and is now racked by a damaging political fight between Mr de Klerk and his heir-apparent, Roelf Meyer, who led the Nationalists in the constitutional talks with the ANC.

Last year, Mr de Klerk appointed Mr Meyer as the party's General Secretary, but was forced to rescind his appointment this year under

pressure from Herries Kriel, the tough Nationalist Premier of the Western Cape, and Martinus van Schalkwyk. Mr Meyer's rival for the party leadership, both of whom are deeply suspicious of his announced intention of seeking a new political alignment.

There is a growing feeling that Mr Meyer conceded far too much in the constitutional negotiations and that he has become closer to the

ANC in spirit than is at all acceptable to the Nationalist grassroots. Mr Meyer has been consulting widely with other opposition figures and has publicly announced that he sees no future for the party in its current form and that it should dissolve itself to form part of a broader opposition grouping.

He has rejected a call by Mr de Klerk to cease his discussions with other parties and it seems certain that he will either have to resign from the party or be forced out.

The party is also suffering from a constant flow of apartheid-era atrocity stories from hearings of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Mr de Klerk's insistence that

he knew nothing of such crimes has worn thin with constant repetition and he now seems a much diminished figure. Most politicians feel that he made a great mistake by not retiring directly after the 1994 election. He now faces the accusation that he failed to obtain the power-sharing deal with the ANC that he promised to whites (and especially Afrikaners), and that he has in effect destroyed the National Party.

Mr Meyer is now doubtless right to argue that the party's past makes it all but impossible to garner sufficient non-white votes to mount an effective challenge to the ANC. But in South Africa's racially

polarised society, it is not clear that a new political movement would find that much easier, despite the very deep popular disappointment with the ANC's failure to deliver on most of its election promises.

It is difficult to see how the Nationalists can avoid continuing decline. Its original Afrikaner nationalist mission lies in ruins — even South African Airways does not use Afrikaans in its flight announcements any more — and for a party so long used to power and the fruits of office, opposition politics has been a difficult and unwelcome experience which has seen most of the party's old guard rush to leave the scene.

New kidnap mars signing of peace deal with Chechens

FROM ROBIN LODGE IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA and the breakaway republic of Chechnya signed a treaty yesterday aimed at ending 400 years of confrontation and setting out the principles for peaceful relations between Moscow and the volatile north Caucasus region.

The Kremlin ceremony also marked the first meeting between President Yeltsin and Aslan Maskhadov, the Chechen leader, since his election as President of the republic in January. Mr Maskhadov was the rebel chief of staff during the region's 21-month war for independence in 1994-96. Tens of thousands of people, most of them civilians, died in the conflict, which ended with a ceasefire last summer, the withdrawal of Russian troops and an agreement to defer the question of Chechnya's status for five years.

The ceremony was marred, however, by the latest in a series of kidnappings of Russian journalists in Chechnya. On this occasion the victims

were Yelena Masyuk, Russia's best known Chechen war reporter, and two of her television crew, who were seized at gunpoint during the weekend near the village of Samashki in western Chechnya.

Ms Masyuk soared to prominence because of her outspoken reports for NTV television, which revealed the gross mishandling of the campaign by the Russian military command, as well as atrocities committed against civilians.

Her interviews with rebel leaders, including Shamil Basayev, who led the hostage-taking raid on the southern Russian town of Budyenovsk in June 1995, brought threats of Russian criminal proceedings, although no charges were ever brought against her.

Mr Yeltsin said after yesterday's signing that the Chechen leader had denounced all acts of terrorism and had given him an assurance that "he will fight terrorists, look for the culprits and find them, that

the Chechen authorities will free journalists and look for Russian prisoners of war".

While no treaty text was available, Mr Yeltsin said it declared "our firm intention never to use force or threaten to use it in relations between the Russian Federation and the Republic of Ichkeria" — the name preferred by Chechens.

Mr Maskhadov said his delegation had come to Moscow "in peace and for peace". He added: "By signing this document we have shown the whole world that the peace process is a reality." He avoided apportioning direct blame for the kidnappings, but said that they had been carried out by those opposed to the peace process. However, in an interview on Sunday with the Russian Eko Moskva radio station, he blamed Russian officials seeking to undermine the Chechen administration.

The kidnapping is the latest in a spate of such incidents since hostilities ended. An Italian journalist was freed last month after spending two months in captivity. His release followed that of two Russian journalists working for the ORT state television company. In both cases a large ransom is widely believed to have been paid. Another armed group is demanding \$2 million (£1.2 million) for four Russian journalists who disappeared in March.

■ Moscow facilities: Russia spent \$292 million to rebuild the 18th-century Kremlin housing Mr Yeltsin's office and administration, the Interfax agency said. (Reuters)



Aslan Maskhadov and Boris Yeltsin sign the accord yesterday in front of Russian and Chechen delegates

India and Pakistan to free captives

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN ISLAMABAD

THE most successful high-level meeting for years between India and Pakistan yesterday raised hopes that thousands of divided families might be allowed to see each other for the first time in half a century.

It was also agreed to release each other's prisoners, all fishermen accused of illegally entering territorial waters, and to set up a hotline between

the two prime ministerial offices. There were unprecedented joint calls for reduced military spending.

The families were separated during the run-up to the partition of the subcontinent in August 1947. In one of the world's biggest migrations, Muslims, Hindus and Sikhs crossed the frontier by train, lorry, bus and bullock cart, and many walked hundreds of miles with meagre possessions. Each community left behind family members who were too frail or poor to leave, or simply refused to move. Until recently, divided families living outside the main cities were unable to establish telephone contacts, so poor were cross-border telecommunications. Postal links have always been difficult.

There was a rare mood of conciliation yesterday when Nawaz Sharif, elected Prime Minister of Pakistan three months ago, and Inder Kumar Gujral, the new Prime Minister of India, had talks at a meeting of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation in the Maldives. The two men get on well and share fluency in Urdu and Punjabi.

Mr Sharif, speaking before he met his Indian counterpart, called for a lowering of regional tensions, which would lead to less military spending and a better quality of life for people

of the region. Mr Gujral called Mr Sharif a close personal friend. Never in half a century of enmity has there been such ostentatious amity.

Their informal talks reinforced the improved atmosphere between the two countries, without yielding any immediate practical results. India and Pakistan have never seemed more willing to shed their old rhetoric of hostility, although the dispute over Kashmir continues to blight relations. They have fought three wars, two over Kashmir.

Mr Sharif, with a two-thirds parliamentary majority, is in an exceptionally strong position to put relations with India on a new footing. However, he would find it politically difficult to make key concessions over Kashmir. Mr Gujral, 76, born in Shetian in what is now Pakistan — like Mr Sharif, he is a Punjabi — has declared it a "mission" to see normalised relations with Pakistan in his lifetime.

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100,000 homeless in Iran quake

BY MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA, JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK AND LIN JENKINS

NOT A single structure is left standing in the 200 Iranian villages hit by a massive earthquake, a United Nations official who flew over the region reported yesterday.

Hamid Reza Ghaffarzadeh, a representative of the UN Development Programme, in a brief telephone conversation with a colleague, described scenes of devastation in hundreds of villages. He is to present his written findings to UN headquarters today.

■ Moscow facilities: Russia spent \$292 million to rebuild the 18th-century Kremlin housing Mr Yeltsin's office and administration, the Interfax agency said. (Reuters)

"What he saw was total destruction and massive damage — no standing structure and everything flattened in the

200 villages affected," the colleague told *The Times*. "He also said that the food and relief operations were being very efficiently organised by the Iranians because they have had experience with similar situations before."

Mr Ghaffarzadeh, who toured the affected eastern region of Iran with staff of the World Food Programme and UN High Commissioner for Refugees based in Mashhad, put the number of people made homeless by the Saturday quake at around 100,000.

President Rafsanjani toured the area where rescue workers

said there was little chance of finding any more survivors in the quake that has killed at least 2,400 people.

International offers of help

continued to pour in from the West and Middle Eastern countries such as Egypt and Saudi Arabia whose relations with Iran have been difficult.

Britain, which has not received any request for help from the Tehran Government, yesterday pledged £100,000 to the Iranian Red Crescent.

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies appealed for £5 million. Andres Fris-

mark, a senior UN official in Tehran, said Iranian rescue teams are doing a marvelous job, but what has become critical is stocks".

Iran, which has mobilised more than 4,000 local volunteers, refused visas for a 14-strong team from the International Rescue Corps charity.

They were due to fly out from London but Tehran said they were not needed. The charity believes it can help to save lives. It said: "We have known somebody to survive 17 days, but the maximum is normally ten to 13 days." A Swiss team was given nine visas.



A man is comforted yesterday next to the rubble of his home in Qayen, the epicentre of the earthquake

Deep Blue evens score for IBM

New York: While Garry Kasparov fumes after losing to Deep Blue, the creators of the world's best chess-playing computer are getting ready to harvest the commercial rewards of a memorable publicity coup (Tunku Varadarajan writes).

IBM, the machine's makers, have received the kind of filip from its "man versus technology" chess challenge that makes competitors weep and add men drool. It is amazing what a win will do. Mr Kasparov's defeat on Sunday, in fewer moves than he has ever lost a match before, was worth more than money to the corporation. Yesterday, precious public praise came from Nathan Myhrvold, the chief technologist at Microsoft, where IBM is often held up to ridicule. He said: "It's an IBM team that did it. My hat is off to them." IBM, which spent an estimated \$5 million (£3 million) on this year's rematch — including publicity, prizes and the cost of putting Deep Blue together — has reaped the equivalent of \$100 million in free publicity.

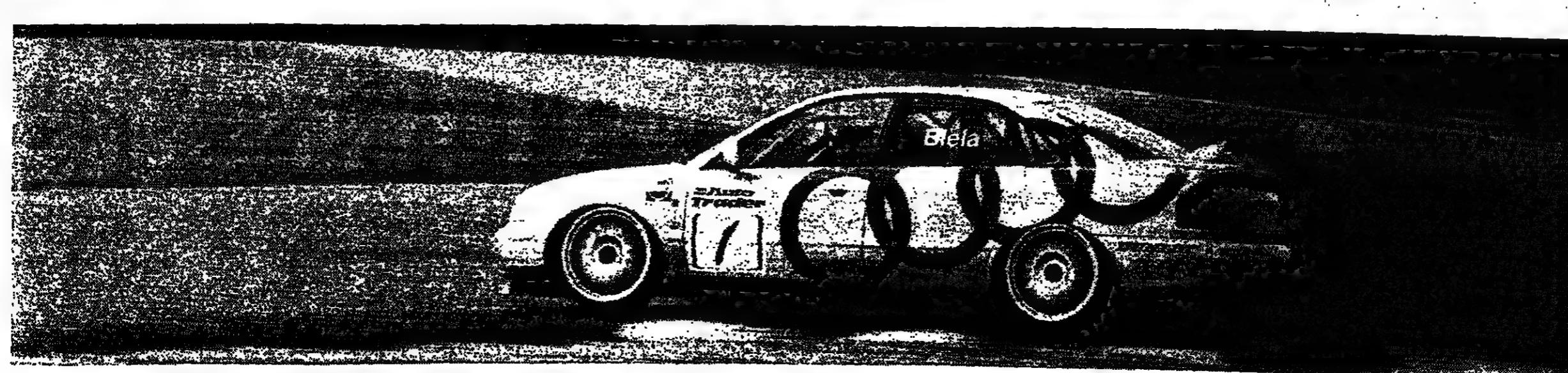
Man versus Machine, page 18

Typhus rages in Burundi

Bujumbura: The world's worst typhus outbreak for 5 years has infected thousands of people in Burundi, the World Health Organisation says. Some 20,000 typhus cases were reported between January and March, mostly in camps guarded by the Tutsi-dominated army, to deny access to Hutu rebels. (Reuters)

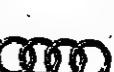
Tapie in new fraud trial

Marseille: Bernard Tapie, 54, the former tycoon in jail for match-fixing and interfering with witnesses, appeared in court with 19 others on charges of embezzling Fr100 million (£10.5 million) from Olympique Marseilles, his football club. (Reuters)



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They're changing, not drowning

In the second part of our series on the problems and opportunities facing women in midlife, the Cambridge social psychologist Terri Apter focuses on the four different types of crisis experienced by women as they reach maturity, and argues that each can lead to a successful outcome

SECRET PATHS

Women in the new midlife

TRADITIONAL WOMEN

Traditional women are those who have identified themselves primarily as wives and mothers and who believe that their family's needs take priority. Had they lived in previous generations, these women would have been typical. Today, they often feel abnormal and obscured by the high-profile images of the career woman.

There were three different points at which the traditional woman's midlife crisis was targeted. The first was a woman's identification with a husband's ambition, an identification that silenced her needs – until, at midlife, she acknowledges what she has previously ignored. A second sore point was the time and energy a traditional woman had poured into her family. The



Achiever: Norma Major



Family values: traditional women put husband and children first but many complain of feeling "marginal", "small" or "useless" compared with high-profile career women.

third target for midlife crisis was the empty nest: as the tasks of motherhood became less intense, some women were flooded by a surplus of time, in which they confronted a lack of purpose. The emptiness, initially experienced as a catastrophe, ushered in awareness of neglected dimensions of themselves.

The crisis for traditional women occurs within a revolution of ideas about what women should and could be. Most women born between 1938 and 1954 have a fairly strong idea of what a traditional woman's life is like and what a traditional woman is: her identity is centred on being a wife and mother. Many women born during these years fought against this traditional mould, feeling its pressure, frightened that they were being conditioned or programmed for a life they did not want. Women's lives have become so varied that there are now no markers to make one feel "Yes, I'm going along life's path as I should". In previous generations, finding a boyfriend, getting engaged, then married, then becoming a mother, marked the rightness of a woman's path. Whatever else a woman did – whether she went to college, took a job – these markers showed whether she passed or failed her test for femininity. Now women have no normal life pattern.

It is easier for women to decide not to marry, not to have children, or

Traditional women labelled career women selfish'

The path through crisis to a new midlife often remains unmarked by obvious change. Some women, however, cannot find their way ahead without achieving radical changes in their lives. The women in my sample who felt they had lived the early years of adulthood in a narrow corridor, confined by a lack of skill or confidence or self-awareness, saw midlife as an opportunity to expand their horizons.

For some expansive women the urge to make radical changes arises from that midlife assessment during which previous dissatisfaction are confronted. Ready to take charge of their futures and less distracted by the judgments of others, they resist the narrowness enforced by limited training or education. Other expansive women see the need to extend their self-knowledge and abolish the fears that have limited their emotional horizons.

The need for expansion can also arise from changing circumstances. A divorce may make a woman aware of a narrowness that before she had barely noticed. The expansive women in my sample is a turning point away from the wasted energy of suppressed wishes towards an ability to make use of the multi-dimensional self they now acknowledge.

SIGNS OF CRISIS:

- Increasing frustration with the pressure of others' demands.
- Anger at the inability to focus on one's desires.
- Panic at the distance between how others perceive one and who one really thinks one is.

RESOLUTION:

- Gains more control over the extent of one's responsiveness to others' needs.
- Forges a strong link between what one wants and what one decides to do.
- Connects with that "unseen" self, often through having more private time.

Whether an expansive woman's crisis was stimulated by internal or external forces, it followed a similar course. First came the critical realisation of her own impatience with the status quo. This was followed by anxiety as to change. As she begins to take definite steps towards change, she often experiences a relief, which releases enormous energy. Hence, she may seem, to others, wild or scatty or irresponsible. Yet such carelessness is superficial. At each point of change, I found the women in my sample asking "How much should I preserve?" and "How much should I shed?" The crisis is resolved not when she has

gained everything she has hoped for, but when she feels confident in her ability to sustain her upward stride.

A woman must confront the sense of inadequacy or incompleteness or dissatisfaction she has been hiding. For, in early adulthood, we try to develop those skills and patterns that make us feel competent. In midlife crisis, we have to turn back to neglected, thwarted themes and try to develop them.

The women who sought radical change were most likely to experience resistance to change from their partners. People who were close to them were used to these women as they once were; many partners felt safer as a woman buried her doubt, and lived with it, without challenging it. Unlike innovative women, whose families learnt over time to accommodate their goals for achievement and self-expansion, these expansive women were opening themselves up in entirely new ways.

Several partners were appalled by these radical

changes. Their underlying question was "What will I be for her, if she can be these things for herself?" Some women, seeking to reassure a partner, put their new horizons behind a screen. This compromise was rejected by older women. So often in the women who were over 50 there was a breath of fresh air, something positive and pure.

Eight of the women I interviewed were currently undergoing divorce. A common characteristic among them was the sharp drive towards preserving self-esteem, and the will to survive. Those who clung onto their anger did so productively. Work became not a luxury or a prestigious pastime, but as it is for many women, a necessity.

Divorce is always a crisis. When a midlife woman experiences it, she meets a network of crisis. She is primed, anyway, for a crisis of reassessment because the cultural idea of being 40 and no longer young demands new sources of self-esteem.

The distress of women in the process of divorce seems overwhelming, yet their recuperative powers are remarkable. They tend to recover more quickly than men and are more likely to use this change to stimulate growth.

SIGNS OF CRISIS:

- Angry awareness of the unnecessary constraints others impose on one.
- Increasing frustration at one's lack of skills or knowledge.
- Terror of change, balanced by a terror of stasis.

RESOLUTION:

- Resists the pressures of others' views as to what one is or should be.
- Takes steps to expand one's skills and knowledge.
- Is thrilled by the long-neglected experiences of development and change.

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Escape from the boardroom

Innovative women have, during the past three decades, ridden high on the crest of the wave of change. These are women who set out to compete in the man's world of work and to gain equal status. Many of them had, at the brink of midlife, attained their goals, and those who had not, still had made significant advances towards them. Yet the women in my sample, who had come so far, were halted by a crisis.

These women pledged their intelligence and ambition towards forging new paths in men's territory. The swings and roundabouts of that social revolution are only now coming into focus. The integration of women's different roles and goals has been much harder than anyone anticipated. Just as young women's expansive ambitions came to life, a new ethos of hard work, consuming work, spread throughout businesses and the professions. Nor have demands on parental time decreased.

For the innovative women in my sample, crisis was stimulated by one of five: often interconnected things: the stress of overwork; a new awareness of an imbalance between professional and personal needs; the pain of prejudice; frustration with ambitions that had been muted or disguised; or the increasingly tense conditions at work. Any of these could be the sore spots exposed by midlife crisis.

When stress about time triggered a woman's crisis, extremely minor hitches such as being forced to cancel dinner with a friend, or having time to help a child with a homework assignment could unleash major questions about what she wanted to do with the rest of her life.

The reassessment triggered at midlife can lead an innovative woman to a new careful tracking of where she is going. At 40, Nan Grodsky, the in-house lawyer for a commercial bank, made a deliberate decision to change the framework of her choices. She decided that she would change, because she did not want to spend the rest of her life alone.

"For 20 years I have either been looking ahead or behind. How do I get there and stay there, and who is the challenge ahead and who is the threat from behind? Now I am looking ahead again, but in a different direction, and the future is empty — no husband, no children, no family of my own — I no

INNOVATIVE WOMEN



Lynne Franks: a new direction

longer want to be alone. So I am taking a calculated risk. Maybe, I will miss the next good promotion. But the greatest risk I can take is to keep putting my job first.

A changing work environment can spur a crisis in innovative women, who may previously have been running on automatic. Corporate roulette, for these women, brings dissatisfaction to the surface and stimulates questions about what they want to do during the next phase of their lives. The innovative women in my sample were often surprised by their willingness to diverge from long-held plans. They were empowered by a new ability to change the blueprints to which they had been meticulous, referred to all their previous decisions.

The leaner and meaner policies of many corporations make life tough for everyone. Employees have to work harder, under greater pressure both from a sense of competition and a sense of job security. These are precisely the conditions that many women feel unable to work well in. It is an atmosphere that can be highly inefficient, as others try to run alongside every other runner, rather

REX FEATURES

than find their own means to their own ends. When women see themselves as having the choice, they cannot see the point. Herein, a crisis enters for many innovative women, as they refuse to follow the old ideals of what it is to be a career person, and they forge new paths through their futures.

The innovative women who did stay on in an aggressive working atmosphere were guided by a mission to show that they could perform well under pressure. These women gained power through their ability to influence the male preserve and they felt that in their new midlife they were taking on the responsibility to transform their working environment — either by finding different work or by changing their current workplace.

As she learns to speak anew, the innovative woman in midlife can change more than she dreamt of in her youth. As she redefines her own goals, she leaves behind both the male ideal of the career person and the image of the superwoman who finds that magical spot in which everything can be achieved and nothing sacrificed. As she confronts, in her midlife crisis, the discomfort of the male preserve and the impossibility of a life without any compromises whatsoever, she gains new control over the compromises that she makes.

SIGNS OF CRISIS:

- Sudden pangs of doubt as to the value of long-held ambitions.
- Panic as one sees that guilt about the rejection of traditional feminine roles has not been resolved.
- Feels trapped by one's own compulsion to control the contradictory pressures between career and personal life.

RESOLUTION:

- Goals are reassessed, usually with a shift in emphasis, rather than a complete reversal.
- Feminine roles and characteristics are redefined, and those that are valued are accepted with a highly individual slant.
- The setting in which one pursues one's goals is transformed so that goals are now pursued on one's own terms.



Innovative women set out to compete in a man's world, but can find themselves wondering what they really want

'I'm 40, and old enough for anything'

There were some women in my sample who waged a war against age. Feeling they still had "all the punch to do", they protested against midlife, insisting they were not prepared for it — not yet, not when they had had so little time to be young.

Protesting women had been catapulted into premature adulthood — by the death of a parent, by the demands of poverty, or by an early pregnancy. Having been forced to behave responsibly, sensibly and consistently at a very early age, these women, at midlife, wanted to reach back and grow into the youth they never had.

Protesting women tend to have a strong need to express their individuality. They feel proud of their abilities and confident of their potential, but have been unable to harness their strengths. Some setback or necessity had prohibited them from exercising their taste for spontaneity and adventure. However much they had actually achieved, they felt that they had not done enough, or not precisely what would satisfy them. These women were, at the

onset of crisis, keenly aware of a potential history that was parallel to their actual history. They felt closely shadowed by what they might have been, what circumstances had deprived them of being. Midlife crisis involved a weathering of panic and despair lest the qualities that had been put in cold storage were lost forever. It was resolved as these women learnt again to be spontaneous — as a youthful, midlife woman.

Ellen Samuel had left school at 16 to help to maintain her father's motel as his health deteriorated. Monica Seleck became a mother when she was 16. Throughout early adulthood, each had proved themselves capable and competent. Aware that they had missed out on much of the freedom of late adolescence and the experimental stages of adult life, they

I felt like nothing was ever going to happen to me again'

looked on their peers as inhabiting a different world, filled with golden opportunities and magical chances. As the gates of youth slammed shut in their faces, they made strong, sensible decisions and held their heads high; but they felt a stab of regret at having missed out.

These women protested at the passing of time because they feared the final loss of the youth they never had. "All my life I've been too young to do what I do," Ellen said. "Now I'm 40, and old enough for anything. It's hit me that I want everything I didn't have earlier — all the chances, all the choices. And I want it now."

At 42 Monica experienced a resurgence of both hope and hopelessness. "I felt like nothing was ever going to happen to me again. There was only this underwater feeling. Then

finally that idea ... walking to work, waiting for the bus ... nothing's going to happen, and the sense that only you are going to stop yourself turning into that old woman nothing happened to. Turning 40 sent me into a panic because I knew it had to be now or never, but I could not see how to make it happen."

Protesting women's desires were intense and vague. Where would their extravagant hopes bring them? Four years after the interview sessions, these protesting women seemed transformed. Their gestures were broader. Their voices louder and they seemed continually excited. In their newly won spontaneity, protesting women often became "difficult" women — judged to be too loud, too sexual, too assertive. They read others' judgments of them with mingled disregard and pride. Their own lack of concern for others' views increased their confidence as they experienced, again, their newfound freedom.

The war that protesting

women waged against midlife was not a war against change. The needs of these women were not for stasis, or for turning back the clock, but for finding ways forward. These women found new "selfish" strength and control, as they, in their new midlife, grew into the youthful exuberance they had once left behind.

SIGNS OF CRISIS:

- Panic that youth is passing before it has been experienced as youth.
- Longs to act irresponsibly, for a change, yet fears that one's desires are dangerous.
- Overwhelmed by long-suppressed feelings of regret, anger and lack of confidence.

RESOLUTION:

- Sees maturity as a door to new opportunities.
- Exercises spontaneously in daily life without threatening one's wellbeing.
- Retraces past desires and goals, and refashions them for current use.

● *Secret Paths* will be published by W.W. Norton on Thursday, price £9.95.

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The chess world goes to pieces

Tunku Varadarajan watches Deep Blue crush Kasparov

He lost. It won. By now, only someone as out of touch with earthly events as a rainforest tribe or an American juror would fail to know what I'm talking about. So effectively has chess colonised our consciousness these past few days that it might be said, with scant exaggeration, that the six-game challenge series between Garry Kasparov and Deep Blue has entered the pantheon of history's great battles: Thermopylae, Actium, Hastings, Waterloo, El Alamein ... and now the New York Equitable Center.

I watched most of the games between the brooding Russian warlock and the improbably named computer. I saw Kasparov "shamed", as he described defeat in his self-flagellating post-match press conference. I applauded the men who built the computer which disposed so gaily of the best chess player ever born to a mother.

The chess was gripping. Not since Ian Botham single-handedly took on the Australians in the 1981 Ashes series, and defeated them, have I been so enthralled by a sporting event. At the risk of offending chess purists — those purists of the most prickly strain — Kasparov is the Botham of the chess world. That, perhaps, is why he lost to Deep Blue.

The Russian loves to mix it. His style of play is a unique blend of bullying and brain. He glowers. He looks black. He sniggers at mistakes. He stares, with his profound Armenian eyes, into the soul of the opponent before him. He is the master of the psychological sucker-punch, the bluffer's knockout. It was these qualities, allied to his ability to calculate up to three moves per second, that helped him demolish Nigel Short and, more recently, his Indian challenger "Vishy" Anand.

Not so Deep Blue, of course. How do you bully a 6ft computer that looks like a music amplifier? Kasparov displayed the full range of his body language in the first game as if by instinct, but made no impression. The Chinaman from IBM who had been selected to make the computer's moves was the wrong target. He was probably thinking about his dinner — or Kasparov growled at him — or about his wife.

The Russian lost. "Man," as some overheated observers would have it, lost too. But Deep Blue's victory was also a victory for "man". Who, after all, made the damned thing? Who programmed it, tweaked it, fed it with data? Man, of course.

The chess was very real. Let no one — not even Kasparov — tell you otherwise. Anyone who was at the Equitable Center — a plate-glass, sky-scraping confection on 52nd Street and 7th Avenue — will remember the event primarily for its chess. Every day, 450 spectators (yes, many of them in anoraks) followed the game on closed-circuit television, with running commentary.

provided by a silver-tongued team of international masters.

It was akin to a cerebral cock-fight. Watchers whooped, clapped, whistled, gasped, cheered and groaned as Kasparov fought it out with a machine that can calculate up to a billion positions per second. People ate popcorn, drank fizzy drinks, chatted and explained the finer points to their children.

Many of those attending tapped the game assiduously into their own laptop computers. Others, however, scribbled like fury into that subborn survivor from another age — the notebook. In the press room, where analysis and argument were as intense as the furrow on Kasparov's brow, Russian journalists jostled with New York's own bruisers for use of the telephone lines, plug points and a better view of the television monitor. A Spanish journalist and a French cameraman nearly came to blows over the chair with the best view, and British journalists could be heard asking the waitresses if there was any wine. There wasn't.

It was a very human scene and very human contest. Kasparov certainly behaved like a man after he lost, fuming a bit and blaming IBM for playing tricks on him. There is much of modern Russia in him: not for him the monosyllabic, impenetrability of the old Soviet champions, whose post-match commentary "da" or "nyet".

Kasparov is a mercurial citizen of a mercurial society, reflecting in his temperament all of Russia's fears, paranoia, ambitions and yearning for greatness.

Will he, with time, absorb his loss? Are there reserves of phlegm behind his new despair? The chess world must hope so, for it would be a tragedy if he were now to be disoriented forever. Chess pundits present feared that Sunday's defeat, in which Deep Blue crushed him in 19 blistering moves, might have softened Kasparov to such an extent that his next human challenger will find him much easier to beat.

But let us not speculate. Let us not be absurd, either, in our reaction to Deep Blue. Kasparov, in his post-match performance, came dangerously close to being the Ned Ludd of the chess world. Certainly, his reference to "machine", without the article — as in "I played machine today" or "I did not expect machine to move so creatively" — appeared to carry the seeds of resentment.

Deep Blue is not the megabyte Spinning Jenny of the late 20th century. It is just a very fine computer. Kasparov lost to it. He will, probably, lose to it again. Some of the machine's gambits were so new that they can only have enriched the repertoire of the chess players who watched. A game played for more than a thousand years now flutters in the fresh wind of innovation. There is no shame in that, Mr Kasparov.

Knot to be

THERE is terrible unrest beween parish and provost in the London borough of Southwark. On one side are the Shakespeare and heritage buffs who have arrived with the restored Globe Theatre. On the other are the effete yet steady authorities of Southwark Cathedral.

The trouble started when Lady Renouf, a social hurricane on the advisory board of the Globe, drew up plans for an Elizabethan knot-garden on a disused site outside the theatre. After several months of canapé-serving, she had raised £30,000 in sponsorship and was all set to get knotting.

Enter the Very Rev Colin Slez, the Provost of Southwark, who approached the council to stop the garden. Too close to his own front porch, he claims. "He says that people will be able to see into his windows from the garden," says Lady Renouf. "It is so bloody-minded of him. Why can't he just put up net curtains like anyone else?" It gets worse. "He treats it like his back yard," says Lady Renouf. "He often parks his car there, and has even put up a gate so that the public think it's private land."

So strained have relations be-

come between the two, that Mr Slez has written to the council attacking Lady Renouf in person. "He told them that I couldn't work in a team, and that if there had to be a garden, Lady Salisbury would be the better person to design it."

At the cathedral, Mr Slez is confident of victory. "There will be no knot-garden," he growls, before putting down the phone.

Cut price

CHRIS EVANS, the television presenter, has just bought a house in Arundel Gardens in Notting Hill for £1.6 million. He will be just down the road from his girlfriend, Suzy Aplin, who lives in Kensington Park Road. Others within shouting distance include the former Chancellor Norman Lamont, Damon Albarn of Blur and the writer John Mortimer. If Evans feels the need to talk television,



Boys need watching

Without a kind but firm framework of adult control, young males can be fiends

taking up too much space". An unhappy girl punishes her own body with anorexia; an unhappy boy punishes the world with half-bricks. A girl in turmoil runs up phone bills, but when boyish adventurousness and bravery turn sour, phones are ripped out. Even at the simplest domestic level, if you hire a bouncy castle for two children's parties, the girls will dance around sociably and reveal their dark side only in caty remarks about Layla's new leggings, whereas the boys will climb on the plastic roof and fall through, or disconnect the inflator with their friends still inside. They can hardly help themselves. These things just come over them.

Unless they are properly supervised. Supervising boys is hard work: it involves constant nagging, pulling-up and dressing-down, isolating pests and helping them to see other people's points of view, spotting the victim and the victimiser almost before they themselves know which is which. It involves channelling vast physical energy into permissible physical skills. It needs vigilance, patience, humour and a genuine affection for boy nature. Shirkiness does not work, and nor does a grudging, primitive feminist distaste for all things masculine.

Some women youth leaders can fill this need, but it is easier for a man to exude the right mixture of example, firmness and empathy. Such leaders have been neglected and undervalued lately, not least because more energy is put into witch-hunts for potential "abusers" than into encouraging men to lead boys. Youth movements including the Scouts suffer shortages as a result, just as male primary school teachers are an endangered species. This is the first mistake we have made: not recognising that boys need men.

Another mistake is to concentrate on exotic crimes instead of their commonplace roots. When children rape, we pontificate about premature

age sex, it is a horror story about the blind violence of boys who have not had civilised values painstakingly inculcated. It is not *Lolita*, it is *Lord of the Flies*.

But in William Golding's story, there were no adults on the desert island. Whereas we are here, hands in pockets, watching these children grow up. If they are brutal, it is because we let them be.

Admittedly, a lot of the damage is done out of sight by parents who have no idea how to combine love and reproof. But society is not much help. It fails to provide communal supervised playing space, sporting facilities and leadership. It takes over a year to give a first psychiatric appointment to a disturbed child, by which time the damage has been done; it organises social work so badly that even those who know perfectly well that a family is terrible can do nothing about it.

When the damaged boy arrives at school and gathers a gang around him, he may still not be helped to connect to decent values. School structures and staffing deny that the social development of children is as important as maths. Most playgrounds are supervised not by teachers

but by lay helpers: some are excellent, but for that money they can't all be. Some are weak, even frightened. Why else did nobody notice boys, en masse, going into a girls' toilet?

Moreover, when parents complain about playground incidents, their worries are often belittled — and not only in stressed state schools. Our culture embraces a curious fatalistic Darwinism about children, and even very prestigious schools are capable of shrugging: "They find their own level" or "We try not to interfere". But we should interfere: child rule — specifically boy rule — is dangerous. Most cultures know that and it is actually more "natural" for children to be seen as apprentices adults under training than for them to "find their own level".

Libby Purves

After school hours, the young is on the streets. It has to be, there is sparse funding for the kind of boys' clubs that used to sop up their communities, energies with table-tennis and boxing and rowing in the docks. They find the police cautious, the courts important, and adult passers-by nervously averting their eyes. Ever more disconnected from normal values, the boys are worse and worse until they are old enough for prison. Then the game is really up.

What these children need is not vindictive punishment but education in the widest sense. They need a constant, painstaking input of remonstrance and interest, example and distraction: a kind but unrelenting framework of adult control. Jack Straw's new proposal to make them undertake physical reparation for crimes is a good one. It could work, if real energy and human resource were put into it. Sadly, probation officers are already pouring cold water on it but then perhaps their experience at the sharp end has made them cynical.

Perhaps they suspect from long experience that nobody will provide the money to pay good people to supervise these educational tenets. Perhaps they foresee that the Government will cave in and run for cover at the first mauldin interview and compensation claim from a plausibly distraught mother who says her sweet ten-year-old was called a rude name by an unsympathetic enforcement officer and forced to pick up unhygienic litter. Let us hope that they are wrong.

Is Blair's Tory party up to it?

Woodrow Wyatt reviews Labour's first ten days

It was a landslide in seats but not in votes. The jubilation of the Blairites was not shared by the majority of the nation. Seven per cent fewer voted than in 1992, when Major won with a larger vote than Blair did on May 1. Or put it another way: Blair achieved slightly under 45 per cent of those voting, just one point higher than when Ted Heath won narrowly in 1970. Theoretically it should be well within the reach of the Tories to win an overall majority at the next election, despite the increase in Liberal Democrat seats from 20 to 46. When Labour does well, so do the oddities, such as Sinn Féin in Northern Ireland. Even the Scottish Nationalist Party doubled the number of its MPs. When Labour is routed the minnows are too.

Whether that theory will be dented depends now that the Tories have been dismissed, upon how intelligently power is used by the alternative Tory party, which is how new Labour presented itself. If it shows itself more competent and radical (that is, Thatcherite) than the defeated Tories, new Labour could be in for ten years. Clement Attlee used to say that a new government should do the unpopular things first so that they would be forgotten by the next election. Gordon Brown promptly put up interest rates with hints of more to come. Middle-class mortgagees found that the larger banks and building societies had added to Brown's increase.

Doubtless the coming Budget will contain some unpleasant surprises, with no increases by any name other than income tax. Further interest-rate increases, or reductions, will now be determined by the Bank of England, deflating criticism from the Government. This is an amazing abdication of responsibility by politicians, who should have retained this essential instrument of the economy and been prepared to take the blame if they were shown to have misused it.

When the Bank of England last had this immense power, before the war, Montagu Norman was the Governor. In January 1925 he put us back on the gold standard: it was the prime cause of a savage recession and of the most crippling and cruel unemployment of modern times: with itsario, manifested for unemployment benefit. Already, this Labour Government has charged in to accept the EU's social changes which will inevitably lead to a sharp rise in unemployment. However, Mr Major left a strong, growing economy that it could take the alternative Tory party a few years to destroy it.

Meanwhile, some immediate actions of the Blair administration can be applauded. There is the reversal of Neil Kinnock's pledge to send back to Athens the Marbles rescued from Turkish destruction by Lord Elgin. Remaining in the British Museum they will certainly be more carefully preserved than they would in volatile Athens, and they will probably be seen by millions more people.

Making Frank Field number two (or is it number one?) at the social security department to guide the hapless Harriet Harman is a masterstroke. Frank Field immediately recognised the virtues of Peter Lilley's plan for a gradual move into compulsory and properly funded private pension schemes. He said so, as far as he dared with Peter Mandelson looking over his shoulder, just before the election. New Labour has been short of worldwide new ideas: it is wise of Mr Blair to recognise that Mr Field has the brains to learn from the powerful intellect that produced the Conservative scheme, which in its way is a 21st-century version of the Beveridge Plan. And Mr Field will, of course, continue the effective drive against benefit frauds so well begun by Mr Lilley, who has the most penetrating brain in the Commons.

Another creditable initiative is Jack Straw's proposal to make young offenders apologise to and repair the damage done to their victims, with the addition of some public humiliation. It may be a little like being put in the stocks, but that apparently worked well for many centuries. There will be duds in the Government, such as Gordon Brown, who has a worrying incapacity to add up. (Alex Douglas-Home did it better with his famous box of matches in 1963-64.) The unreconstructed yet-Tory Margaret Beckett at the Department of Trade will be driven by her prejudices against profit to wreak mayhem in our commerce and industry until she is removed. And it will not be long before we see an eruption from John Prescott, whom I rather like, as we did from the not dissimilar George Brown.

Much turns on whom the tattered Tories choose as their leader. Michael Howard will never capture the public heart: there is something peculiar about young William Hague who is anyway too young; clever John Redwood blew his chance when he stood against John Major; Kenneth Clarke lost out through his disloyalty to Mr Major during the election campaign; Stephen Dorrell is bright and prone to blunders. Peter Lilley, on the other hand, has the potential and the time to mature impressively. The Tories could do worse than to give this public but tough debater a chance to prove himself.



The Guppies with Spencer

Since his release from chokey, Guppy has been living in a five-bedroom house at Althorp, the Northamptonshire estate of his best friend and best man, Earl Spencer.

The entrepreneurial Earl, however, has been developing his estate, turning disused farm buildings into housing. The farm next to Guppy was said to be next on the redevelopment list. Guppy and family are currently on the road somewhere in Italy, where they are looking for a permanent home.

P.H.S.

Nurb this

AN intriguing death notice appeared in yesterday's *Guardian*: Morris Christopher, 59/165 to 25/17. Ol So Nurb Street, London.

Cut price

CHRIS EVANS, the television presenter, has just bought a house in Arundel Gardens in Notting Hill for £1.6 million. He will be just down the road from his girlfriend, Suzy Aplin, who lives in Kensington Park Road. Others within shouting distance include the former Chancellor Norman Lamont, Damon Albarn of Blur and the writer John Mortimer. If Evans feels the need to talk television,

Chris Evans and Aplin

the political documentary-maker Michael Cockerell is just next door. Evans had agreed £1.4 million with the vendor, but then insisted on absolute secrecy about the purchase. That will be an extra £200,000, said the seller. Evans swiftly agreed to the deal, which, I am delighted to say, has been stuck to absolutely.

Coming to the rescue of the recession, Michael Portillo has been therapy shopping. The former Defence Secretary was sighted down Jermyn Street the other day, where he eschewed the more old-fashioned outlets in favour of the noisier City-boy atmosphere of Thomas Pink. According to one onlooker, he spent some time longingly fingering a shirt in a jazzy Prince of Wales check, before reluctantly going for something more sober and a tie to match.

Italian job

IT'S CHEERS all round in the gem-smuggling community, with news that Darius Guppy, his wife Patricia and their three-year-old daughter Isabella have left Britain.

HORIZON TOUR

The ups and downs of a moral foreign policy

A celebrated Churchillian demand for policy guidance began, "Pray let me have, on not more than half a sheet of paper . . . The terseness of the foreign policy "mission statement" Robin Cook unveiled yesterday would have marked out the new Foreign Secretary as Churchill's ideal civil servant. The difference is that in this case, it is a minister acting the model functionary.

Mr Cook presents this document as a new departure, arguing that every modern business has mission statements and that to produce one for the Foreign Office therefore, underlines Labour's "businesslike approach". Behind this presentational fanfare, the more prosaic truth is that every year, the thick annual Foreign Office report is prefaced by a summary of its mission, aims and objectives. Nothing could be more natural than for Mr Cook to want to insert his own version into the current edition.

Mr Cook's main purpose is to raise the profile of four facets of foreign policy: promoting human rights, restrictions on arms sales, protecting the global environment, and combating poverty directly rather than relying on promoting sustainable economic growth and open markets. Labour is anxious to set a new tone; on human rights and arms sales, the shift is substantial. Labour's human rights agenda is more ambitious than any since that of the Carter Administration in 1976; and like President Carter's is likely to prove easier to enunciate as a general principle than to implement with any degree of consistency.

It is to Mr Cook's credit that instead of dismissing the public's desire to do something to help when confronted by disasters or atrocities elsewhere as "the CNN factor", as Douglas Hurd used to do, he believes that we are all witnesses in today's world and "are therefore obliged to accept moral responsibility for our response". There is merit in adopting the American practice of an annual report on Britain's work in promoting human rights abroad. But the

stronger the principled commitment to human rights, the greater the risk of being pilloried for double standards.

Arms control presents similar problems. Britain is one of the four biggest arms exporters in the world — and Labour is committed to a strong UK defence industry as "a strategic part of our industrial base". Contracts with Saudi Arabia or Indonesia could, however, fall foul of Labour's statement that it will not issue arms export licences "to regimes that might use them for internal repression". Faced with this policy, coupled with instructions to promote human rights forcefully, but told to make "maximum use of our overseas posts to promote trade abroad and boost jobs at home", the natural reflex of British ambassadors must be to wire home for clarification. What balance is to be struck between concern for moral standards and Britain plc?

The first thing they will get back is a 10-minute documentary, to be produced by Sir David Puttnam, which Mr Cook's aides say will "give the flavour of the new Government's thinking". Eagerly as this will no doubt be scrutinised, at some point the new Labour foreign policy will have to progress beyond film scripts.

Omissions, in any broadbrush statement of objectives, are often the most illuminating clues; they reveal what problems are not keeping a minister awake. In Labour's world, the Commonwealth looms large, but it is the uncertain developments in another more evanescent commonwealth, the group of countries that once made up the former Soviet Union, that are most likely to determine whether the European continent is a peaceful and prosperous base for Britain and British foreign policy. Mr Cook has toured the far horizons. The fateful Nato summit on enlargement next month is closer to home and closer to Britain's vital interests. It is to this early test of Labour that Mr Cook should turn, in detail, in Thursday's debate on the Queen's Speech.

NEW LOTTERY

Camelot's lucky numbers are up

The ink is not even dry on the Queen's Speech but already lottery awards have a new flavour of "the many not the few". Yesterday, the Arts Council announced £8 million in grants in its Arts for Everyone scheme for 2,000 amateur recipients ranging from mural artists to acrobats. Chris Smith, the new National Heritage Secretary, will doubtless be pleased to see that nearly £7 million of the money went outside London. If the Churchill papers and the Royal Opera House summed up what for him was wrong with the lottery, this latest disbursement has a very new Labour look.

But it will not be enough for the grant-making bodies simply to adjust their sights in a more democratic or populist direction. Much more about the lottery needs to be reformed. Any new institution as large as the National Lottery was bound to have flaws which needed to be put right after its first few years. Unfortunately the Conservative Government was not prepared to take the necessary action, seeing it as a reflection on its overall competence. The result is that people feel at best ambivalent about the lottery. Labour has a chance to bring it closer to the nation's heart.

First the Government has to address the issue of regulation. Peter Davis, the Director-General of Ofot, well deserves the epithets of "dilatory", "unimaginative" and showing "serious lack of judgment" which were thrown at him by members of the Public Accounts Committee. Virginia Bottomley did not have the nerve to replace him. Mr Smith should.

At the same time, he should redesign the regulator's role. The same person should not

be choosing the lottery operator, maximising the revenue for good causes (and hence the profit to the operator), and ensuring the efficiency and probity of the operation. There are too many potential conflicts of interest residing in this job description.

When Camelot's contract runs out in 2001, Labour aims to move to a "not-for-profit" lottery operator. This would be an admirable reform, providing new money for good causes, as long as the operator could run the lottery as efficiently as Camelot did. In the meantime, Mr Smith should make Camelot's accounts more transparent and close the loophole that allows it to keep the interest on unclaimed prize money.

But it is Labour's plans for the proceeds of the Wednesday draw that best capture the mood of change. Its ideas include training middle-aged teachers, to use computers, putting health and fitness centres on high streets, and setting up a national network of after-school clubs. Care will be needed here. Unless ministers ensure that they are at arm's length from the board that chooses the causes, the Treasury will shunt all their pet schemes in health and education to the lottery to fund. But change is needed too.

By the turn of century, barely a town or village in Britain will be untouched by monuments to the lottery. In the meantime, public disillusionment with the lottery has set in after a euphoric start. If the Government manages to make its operation more transparent and less profitable to the operator, the public might even stop worrying and learn to love the lottery. Labour then would reap the rewards of one of John Major's best ideas.

SUIT YOURSELF

Informality does not always put others at ease

It is not only the Bank of England which has been liberated by the new Government; so has the ministerial Adam's apple. Informality, of dress and address, are the mark of the moderniser. Tony Blair attends church in open-necked shirt and uses Christian names behind the Cabinet's closed doors. His Chancellor has struck another blow against stiffness by letting it be known he will deliver his Mansion House speech next month without the customary tight white collar. There is a certain appeal in politicians fresh to office avoiding the pomposity of power. But there may be new perils too.

Although the use of Christian names in social or business situations is intended to put one at ease, it can all too often introduce additional insecurity. For the overburdened minister or under-briefed journalist a simple "Hello Ambassador" or "Good Evening, Secretary of State" can disguise the fact one has completely forgotten, indeed perhaps never knew, the dear man's name. In the Commons the formula that forces members to refer to their "honourable friends", even though the individual concerned might be a contemptible boulder, may seem a self-conscious archaism. It is, however, not only a tradition of charm, it aids the amnesia, acts as a reminder to MPs of their constituency connection and can help prevent argument descending into personal abuse.

Around the Cabinet table the abandonment of titles could also, far from making ministers more relaxed, lead to poorer

relations. Dissent could until recently be directed at the individual's office rather than his or her person. It is the Home Secretary who says, "you are quite wrong there, Chancellor", who can more easily afterwards ask "fancy a drink, Ken?". To dissolve the division between individual and minister could be dangerous. When the figure in error is no longer the Secretary of State but your old ally Ron, a protective layer of civility has gone and an argument in the Cabinet Room can descend from boxing match to brawl.

Outside the intimacy of the Cabinet Room, the new informality could also cause problems. What signal does it send to the children whom David Blunkett would like to see in uniform if the dress code for dinner is ignored by Gordon Brown? How does Jack Straw's wise recognition that good behaviour springs from respect for communal values square with the Chancellor's flouting of the Square Mile's tribal customs?

Mr Brown insists on "working clothes" for his official engagement. Perhaps the Chiefs of the General Staff should negotiate their next settlement in full battle dress with pistols cocked to show that they too "mean business". After all, Mr Brown's informality is not intended to put his hosts at ease, but to remind them who is boss. As fashion statements go, Mr Brown is simply saying "we are the masters now". The City should be suspicious of the real meaning behind the Chancellor's new clothes.

Shell's duties to its shareholders

From Sir Geoffrey Chandler,
Chair of the Amnesty International
UK Business Group

Sir, At the Shell Transport and Trading's annual general meeting on May 14 a group of shareholders will put a resolution asking for the identification of a director with explicit responsibility for environmental and social policies and for the external audit of such policies. If accepted, this would be the logical implementation of Shell's recently expressed support for human rights (see letter, November 26, 1996) and of its commitment to the highest environmental standards in its operations.

The directors unanimously recommend that the resolution be rejected on the ground that these matters are their responsibility.

The Brent Spar episode and Shell's refusal to join the worldwide condemnation of human rights violations in Nigeria severely damaged the company's reputation. As a result of external pressure and internal reflection the company changed its views. Acknowledging a failure to keep pace with society's expectations, support for fundamental human rights was for the first time included in the company's statement of general business principles earlier this year (report, March 17).

This was greatly to be welcomed. Shell is the first major transnational corporation to do this and offers an example to others. But words need implementation. A critical world, which has long demanded external audit of financial matters, is increasingly seeking similar witness to environmental and social performance which is today inextricably linked to the financial "bottom line".

The matter raises wider issues of corporate governance and of the role of the shareholders in seeking improved performance. In a world where economic development is increasingly in the hands of the transnational corporations, their operations will be a force for good only to the extent that moral criteria are added to the economic criteria which dictate their practice and policies.

If the board wins, it will diminish Shell's reputation and credibility, and dismay staff and friends of the company who will be left with the task of defending the indefensible.

Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY CHANDLER,
Chair, Amnesty International
UK Business Group,
99-119 Rosebery Avenue, EC1.

Brown's Budget

From Mr G. A. P. Leigh-Pollitt

Sir, I was dismayed to read that the Chancellor is considering the abolition of the married couples' tax allowance (report, May 12). In recent years its value has been diminished and currently is worth only £274.50 to those qualifying, and this is the same for all married taxpayers, with no advantage to higher-rate taxpayers.

My concern is that abolishing the allowance will remove the recognition of the value that the married state has for the stability of our society. Most marriages are lifelong and, I believe, still provide the best possible basis for the lives of couples and their children.

The various church denominations have spoken eloquently in the past of the importance of the allowance and it would be unfortunate if a visionary Chancellor were to feel he had to remove it merely to help balance the country's books.

Although the married couples' allowance is perhaps little more than a token amount, I believe its removal, allied to the possibility that Miras relief could be withdrawn for new mortgages, will be seen by the newly married as a particularly unkind and ungenerous act.

Yours faithfully,
G. A. P. LEIGH-POLLITT,
2 Forsters Close,
Wallington, Surrey.
May 12

Brown suit

From Mr K. S. H. Miller

Sir, Would it not be more in keeping with Tony's injunction that ministers are servants of the people and not their masters (report, May 8) if Gordon were to dress in the accepted fashion at the Mansion House next month, rather than insist on wearing a lounge suit (report, May 12).

There is after all, an element of arrogance, if not downright rudeness, in dressing differently from your hosts in such circumstances.

Yours faithfully,
KEITH S. H. MILLER,
The Old Rectory, Wycciff,
Barnard Castle, Co Durham.
May 12

Beware 13 across

From Mr David Wilson

Sir, In March, July, October, May The 13s are on the fifteenth day. Or is The Times crossword (No 20,471) involved in a plot to revise the Roman calendar?

Yours faithfully,
DAVID WILSON,
Tredeydon Isaf, Bridgend, Cardigan.
May 12

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Election rhetoric aside, the debate on Europe continues

From Sir Christopher Audland

Sir, The Prime Minister is preparing to attend the informal summit of the 15 heads of government of the European Union in Noordwijk on May 23, and the European Council meeting on June 6-7, both of which will centre on the future development of the Union. Election rhetoric has made it hard for people here to understand the essential issues, yet they are relatively simple.

The heads of government must bring to a conclusion the long-running inter-governmental conference (IGC) of the member states. Its main aim is to introduce reforms which would allow the Union to work effectively if it were to take in progressively another ten or more members.

There is strong support, here and throughout the Union, for the principle of enlargement, particularly towards the east, so that the emerging democracies in that part of Europe can share in the benefits of Union membership which we in the west have so long enjoyed. But nothing comes free.

If the Union admits them, without radically rethinking its own policies and machinery, it will progressively collapse under its own weight. The blunt truth is, that the only way to make a Union of the kind we know to work, with say 25 or 30 member states, would be by strengthening the European Parliament and the Commission at the expense of the Council of Ministers. Moreover, in the Council, it will be necessary to reduce the national veto power and provide for much more qualified majority voting.

If the IGC, and later the parliaments and peoples of the existing member states, are not willing to go down that road but still want an effective Union, enlargement will be impossible.

If the heads of government decide that they want both the maintenance of an effective Union and further enlargement there will have to be much less insistence on national sovereignty, and much more emphasis on the great benefits which a solid and muscular European Union brings to all its member states.

It accuses Eurosceptics of splitting the Tory party and thus causing our massive defeat. He invites us to unite in co-operation with his federal ambitions.

Union and not become simply a European offshore island. It is against this yardstick that the Government must weigh the merits of more specific national interests.

Yours sincerely,
CHRISTOPHER AUDLAND
(Deputy Secretary-General,
European Commission, 1973-81),
The Old House,
Ackenthwaite, Milnthorpe, Cumbria.
May 9.

From Mr George Thomas

Sir, How on earth did Lord Mackenzie-Stuart (letter, May 8) form the opinion that "the election results in Britain demonstrated that popular consent for the aims of the European Union may be due to the latest inane and needless"?

It would also accord with Sir Leon's earlier oath of exclusive allegiance, which he took when he became a Privy Counsellor to the Crown.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE THOMAS,
House of Lords.

From Professor Emeritus
George Wedell

Sir, The despatch of Mr Douglas Henderson to Brussels (report, May 5) to announce the new Government's intention to sign the social chapter of the Maastricht treaty recalls the UK's original role at the heart of European social policy.

Almost a quarter of a century ago a European Commission team largely under British leadership drafted the original Social Action Programme. Our intention was to give the workers in the Community a proper share in the benefits to be derived from the Common Market.

In 1973 the Commission's Directorate-General for Social Affairs was not much sought after by the power brokers of the enlarged Community. Thus a disproportionate number of posts was filled by new arrivals from the UK.

The Social Action Programme fell victim to the oil crisis of 1974. It was put on the shelf pending better days. In the event much of it was included in the social chapter of Maastricht. Our ministers will therefore be signing many of the moderate provisions deriving from (largely bipartisan) social thinking in this country in the 1970s.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE WEDELL.

(Head, Employment Policy
Division, 1973-82),
18 Cranmer Road, Manchester.
May 5.

Humphrey at home

From Mr Michael Ritchie

Sir, Your report (May 10) of the reconciliation between Humphrey and Mrs Blair curiously omits the important and confusing fact that the cat lives at No 10, whereas the Blairs live at No 11.

Humphrey already has a reputation for residing where he wants, regardless of the whims of his political masters. Could it be that in a coup worthy of his fictional namesake he has established his rights as a sitting tenant?

The incoming Prime Minister, faced with a choice between the demands of his wife and those of the Cabinet Office cat, would surely have been advised to reach the compromise he has, leave Humphrey where he belongs and move next door.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL RITCHIE,
Bryngolman Farm, Llangolman,
Clynderwen, Pembrokeshire.

From Mr I. Johnson

Sir, How disappointing to see Cherie Blair surrender to the pro-cat lobby by being photographed with the feline predator that stalks (and no doubt louts) the gardens of Downing Street.

It is only hoped that such an early volte-face at No 10 is not a sign of things to come.

Yours faithfully,
IAN JOHNSON,
The Glen,
Salisbury Road, Shrewton, Wiltshire.
May 11.

Too close for comfort?

From Mr Angus J. Campbell

Sir, The Reverend James Graham (letter, May 7), is fortunate that, should he win BT's "Friends and Family" dream holiday, he could share it with a benign cleric. I would be host to my mother-in-law, my boss and my eight most dilatory debtors.

Yours faithfully,
ANGUS J. CAMPBELL,
Gardthdee, Edinburgh Road,
Bathgate, West Lothian.
May 7.

From Mr Graham Burford

Sir, While the Reverend J. H. Graham may be concerned about taking his archdeacon with him on holiday, what would I (and no doubt countless others) do in an exotic location with the company that provides me with access, via telephone, to the Internet?

Yours faithfully,
GRAHAM BURFORD,
38 Quarrendon Road,
Amersham, Buckinghamshire.

From the Reverend Colin James

Sir, The Reverend James Graham should worry; my "Friends and Family" include the whole of Oxford Diocesan Church House.

Yours faithfully,
COLIN JAMES,
7 Sewell Avenue,
Wokingham, Berkshire.
May 7.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

OBITUARIES

MAJOR-GENERAL SIR GEORGE BURNS

Major-General Sir George Burns, CB, OBE, MC, Colonel of the Coldstream Guards, 1966-94, died on May 5 aged 86. He was born on January 29, 1911.

In a life devoted to the Coldstream Guards, George Burns fought with his regiment in some of the Second World War's toughest battles. After 30 years' active service, which included fighting in Flanders and France in 1940 and in Italy from the autumn of 1943, he was Colonel of the regiment for another 28 years.

He was a natural leader and proved himself imperturbable under the most trying circumstances. In May 1940, as the German 18th Army closed in on the Flemish village of Ypres (then styled Flanders in deference to the French nomenclature current during the campaign), he commanded a company in some desperate defensive fighting. Later, in Italy, as a battalion commander, he took part in many of the bitter battles which characterised the Anglo-American advance from Calabria to the Po Valley plain, in the teeth of stiff German resistance, between the autumn of 1943 and the spring of 1945.

Walter Arthur George Burns was educated at Eton and Trinity College, Cambridge, where he took a degree in history before being commissioned into the Coldstream Guards in 1932. In 1938, he became ADC to the Vicere of India.

He returned to England in April 1940, just in time to join the 1st Battalion of his regiment in France as its Adjutant, a few weeks before Hitler opened his offensive in the West. As the Blitzkrieg broke on the Western Front his battalion moved forwards into Belgium in accordance with a pre-arranged plan. Thereafter

it receded towards the coast before the German onslaught.

He was his MC for his part in holding a vital sector of the Dunkirk perimeter near Furnes, where a battalion of his regiment and one of the Grenadier Guards were holding the line of the Loo-Nieuport Canal against two corps of the German 18th Army. Burns was sent forward to take command of one of the companies, in which all the officers had been killed or wounded, and which was in some understandable confusion. He rallied it and successfully repulsed successive German attacks until the final withdrawal was ordered late next day. He was lucky to survive: a sniper's bullet turned up the brim of his steel helmet for him.

After Dunkirk, his abilities as a staff officer were fully tested. From March 1941 until November 1943, he was Brigade Major in succession to the 9th Infantry Brigade, the Support Group of the Guards Armoured Division; and the 32nd Guards Brigade.

In the autumn of 1943 he was sent out to Italy to assume command of the 3rd Battalion, the Coldstream Guards in the 20th Guards Brigade, during the fighting for Monte Camino, eight miles south of Cassino. He commanded it with outstanding success throughout the rest of the campaign. Under his command the battalion added "Monte Camino", "Garigliano Crossing", "Advance on Florence" and "Monte Donini" to the Coldstream battle honours. He was awarded his DSO for personal bravery and outstanding leadership during the crossing of the Garigliano and in the subsequent bitter fighting around Trinomisoli.

After the war, his appointments included Brigade Major of the Household Brigade, 1945-47; Commanding Officer of the 3rd Battalion



again, this time in Palestine, 1947-50; and Commander 4th Guards Brigade in the British Army of the Rhine, 1955-59. During this period, he acquired an encyclopaedic knowledge of the customs and traditions of

the Brigade of Guards, which he used to the full in his last active appointment in the Army as GOC London District and the Household Brigade, 1959-62. He was appointed OBE in 1953, CB in 1961 and KCVO in 1962.

On his retirement from the Army he became Lord Lieutenant of Hertfordshire, carrying out his duties with conscientious enthusiasm, lending support to the local aircraft and other high-tech manufacturers, and taking a keen interest in every aspect of life in the county. His principal interest, however, lay in his membership of the Jockey Club and in breeding racehorses for the Flat. He became a Steward in 1964 and supervised racing, principally at Leicester and Folkestone.

In 1966 he was appointed Colonel of the Coldstream Guards. He soon became its much loved father figure, respected for his encouragement, wise counsel and lightness of touch. Indefatigable in visiting Coldstream battalions wherever they might be, and dining with the many Coldstream Guards Association branches scattered up and down the country, he took part in more Queen's Birthday Parades than any other Foot Guards officer. No horseman, despite his interest in horses, it was always with considerable relief to himself and others when he returned to Buckingham Palace still mounted.

In 1991, his 25th year as Colonel, he was advanced to GCOV to the great satisfaction of all past and present members of his regiment. Perhaps one of the most poignant moments of his career came during the 1993 Queen's Birthday Parade when the Colours of the 2nd Battalion were trooped for the last time before it was placed in suspended animation in the "Options for Change" rundown of the Army. Standing behind the Queen on the dais, he saw the battalion march off its last ceremonial parade into history.

He never married, and lived with his mother at North Myatts Park, a beautiful Elizabethan house, until she died.

ABBOT AELRED WATKIN

Dom Aelred Watkin, titular Abbot of Glastonbury and former Headmaster of Dowsdale, died on May 2 aged 79. He was born on February 23, 1918.

DOM Aelred Watkin was a monk of Dowsdale for more than sixty years. A notable antiquarian and historian, he shared his knowledge with generations of pupils at Dowsdale School, teaching from 1947 to 1975. For the last 13 of those years he was a dedicated and effective headmaster, deploying administrative and pastoral skills which found further expression in his subsequent work as parish priest — and Mayor — of Beccles in Suffolk.

He was made titular Abbot of Glastonbury in 1974 in recognition of his contributions to the English Benedictine Congregation in 1976 to recognise his historical work for the Congregation as well as to Roman Catholic education.

He was born in Edgbaston,

— into a family of numerous sisters — and baptised Christopher (Aelred was his religious name). He was the son of E. I. Warkin, the Catholic philosopher, and after education at the Dominican school at Laxton and a short period with Shrewsbury and Ward, the publishers, he decided to enter Dowsdale as a novice monk on September 27, 1936.

After his ordination he went to Christ's College, Cambridge, where he had a glittering career, being elected a scholar and taking a first in both parts of the Historical Tripos. As an undergraduate he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society and in 1950 became a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries and in 1969 the Royal Society of Arts.

He taught history with great success at Dowsdale from 1947 to 1975, combining erudition and humour with a great instinct for the telling detail. He was housemaster of Cavell House from 1948 to 1962, when he succeeded the formidable Dom Wilfred Passmore as headmaster.

It was a measure of his political ability that during his headmastership, which lasted until 1975, he was able to rise above the tumultuous student years of the 1960s. He liked to describe his technique of control as like that of a medieval king, able to look above the heads of the barons to appeal to the good sense of the people. Although to his irreverent charges he was known as "Bushy" — a nickname given to him because of his thick



Abbot Aelred Watkin dressed in his robes as Mayor of Beccles in Suffolk, 1979

MARCO FERRERI



Philippe Noiret, Ugo Tognazzi and Andrea Ferroli in Ferreri's film *La Grande Bouffe*

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THEATRE

Jeremy Sams has history on his mind, as he directs a new production of *Marat/Sade* for the National



OPINION

Bernard Levin once met Maria Callas. Which is why he doesn't believe in the new West End play, *Master Class*

THE TIMES ARTS



POP

Aerosmith fall short of their reputation as the world's greatest party band in a lacklustre Manchester gig

TOMORROW

From the bright lights of Broadway: Benedict Nightingale reports on the latest New York shows

Talking over the asylum

THEATRE: Heather Neill meets Jeremy Sams, director of the NT's new staging of *Marat/Sade*

Writer, composer, pianist, translator and director, Jeremy Sams is accustomed to various languages and disciplines, which is perhaps why he can say of directing *Marat/Sade* for the National Theatre: "It's only on one level, really: it's about putting on a play in an asylum during the French Revolution."

Peter Weiss's play, *The Persecution and Assassination of Marat as Portrayed by the Inmates of the Asylum of Charenton under the Direction of the Marquis de Sade*, was made famous here in Peter Brook's 1964 RSC production, part of the Theatre of Cruelty season. It featured a scarcely known young actress called Glenda Jackson as Charlotte Corday, the woman from Caen who murdered the French revolutionary leader Jean Paul Marat in his bath.

"We've gone back to the German," Sams says. "Peter Brook put a slant on the script — as every director does — and suppressed and rearranged scenes. The published text is a record of his production." Apart from the author, who died in 1982, most of the creative team from the 1960s is still around. Back then, Adrian Mitchell contributed verse to Geoffrey Skelton's English translation, and does so again. "We've cooked the books a bit: for instance, the orchestra is Wright throughout, so Adrian has added a couple of lines," Sams says, and quotes with relish: "Our orchestra — the cream of their profession — is not liable to clinical depression." Richard Pearsall, originally, "wonderful" music will once again cause a frisson.

The piece, set in 1808, is the ultimate play-within-a-play.

The inmates of the asylum at Charenton mount a performance for visitors, acting out

the murder of the Jacobin

Marat by Corday, of the rival

revolutionary faction, the Girondists. The playwright is Sade, an inmate, and the

characters are played by pa-

ients suffering from a variety of mental illnesses. Corday is narcoleptic, given to falling asleep without warning. Marat is played by a paranoid, the Girondist Dupetret by an erotomaniac.

"The first thing we investigated," Sams says, "was who the actors, the characters beneath the characters, are. And what tricks is the marquis pulling? How is he trying to influence and manipulate his actors, and how will they respond to that? Why, for instance, has the marquis given the Corday character

and "actors". What was that about one level?

Sams is aware of historical resonances, those of the 1960s as well as the 1800s. "The shadows of Auschwitz and Hiroshima hang heavily over the work. It was still a time of German expiation for the war [although Weiss wasn't part of that: he had gone into exile in Sweden in 1938]. The Bomb is ever-present, especially in the description of the guillotine. For Weiss, Napoleon was Hitler. Audiences supply their own resonances and references, but it seems as relevant now as ever."

The premise of *Marat/Sade* is historically accurate: "There were plays put on at Charenton. Sade was a patient there and did write plays for the inmates. People came to scoff and went away amazed. Actors from the Comédie Française used to guest star with the inmates. Drama therapy was part of the treatment."

If this seems humane and modern, it was an effect of the French Revolution: all people, including lunatics, had rights. Coulmier, the asylum director, wanted to show off what strides his patients were making.

Sams has investigated the reality of life for asylum inmates, especially their pecking order. "It's not what you'd think. The guards are quite low. And, of course, in the play Sade is at the top of the tree. Sade, as played by David Calder, has such a powerful manipulative presence that Sams has found himself only half-looking, deferring to him as director.

Charenton will be suggested on the Olivier's in-the-round space, with 31 performers in view throughout. "You feel observed all the time — you can play tricks as much — but it's liberating," Sams says. He is anxious to avoid a freak-show effect. "I want people to say 'I know what it's like to feel that much pain'."

• *Marat/Sade* opens tomorrow at the National Theatre, South Bank, SE1 (071-428 2232)

lines about sleep? The part is either going to screw her up or liberate her. And it's the same for all of them. Sade doesn't know how it's going to get out of control, but he knows there's a spin on it. Sade is the wild card in the asylum. He causes the lunatics' pain, but he doesn't care; he thinks of them as disposable." The marquis, of course, plays himself. He has devised dialogues with Marat to air his views on nature, ethics, sexuality, politics and imagination.

The NT actors each worked up a dossier on Marat or their own character. The experience of rehearsal has been, says Sams, intense, personal, often painful. "There are parallels between acting and lunacy — making something up and calling it real, inventing an intact alternative reality." So here are the actors, playing lunatic actors playing revolutionary figures, drawing on their own experience as actors

"It's on one level, really; it's about putting on a play in an asylum during the French Revolution," says Jeremy Sams

Photo: Peter Trewin



■ VISUAL ART 1
Berlin succeeds where London has failed, with a blockbuster show of innovative 20th-century art



■ VISUAL ART 2
Treasures of Indian and Islamic art are showcased in *Splendours of the East* at the Spink gallery ...

THE TIMES
ARTS



■ VISUAL ART 3
... while Bill Jacklin's views of New York are given space at Marlborough Fine Art ...



■ VISUAL ART 4
... and the postwar bohemian art of F.N. Souza is the subject of a retrospective at Julian Hartnoll

AROUND THE LONDON GALLERIES

BILL JACKLIN has recently been the only non-American artist (out of 24) to produce work for the new airport at Washington DC. He suspects that nobody remembered he was not American — after all, he has been living mainly in New York since 1984. In fact, he does not come over in his new exhibition, *New York City — The Collective Image*, as decidedly of any particular nationality. And yet, although his subject is New York, his manner is not quite that of a native. As Hockney in Los Angeles saw aspects, beauties even, that would strike no American as extraordinary, so Jacklin retains the outsider's heightened awareness. But more importantly, he remains, for all his acute observation, the kind of artist who carries his own world round with him, and constantly recreates it. In Jacklin's New York, as in Jacklin's Hong Kong a couple of years back, and once in Jacklin's London or Jacklin's Oxfordshire, there are strong contrasts, almost a pitched battle, between the light and the dark. His people become patterns, just as, when he turned from minimal abstraction to representation, his patterns became people. The constancy

of inspiration is extraordinary: the light moves round the canvas; the eye seems to go in and out of focus as it travels over a crowded audience with flags or the reeling passengers in Grand Central Station. This is one of his best shows, brilliantly inventive, rigorously consistent with what has gone before.

Marlborough Fine Art, 6 Albemarle Street, W1 (0171-629 5101), until May 31

□ TITLES of shows probably do not matter very much, provided they produce the right general effect. The word "treasures" in a title suggests gold and glitter, and will usually bring in the punters, but woe betide any treasures show which does not deliver its due quota. "Splendours" is in the current Spink show *Splendours of the East*, is less committed, perhaps more refined. What you might expect, given that the show consists of Indian and Islamic works of art, is the elaborate and the ornate, gilt rather than gold, semi-precious, rather than precious. That is precisely what the show delivers. There are richly polychrome Turkish tiles, intricately chased ceremonial weapons, jade and enamel and, perhaps most fetching of all, some splen-

dous European-influenced ivory pieces from the sub-continent. Notable among these are an exquisite 17th-century cabinet from Sri Lanka, with carved decorations of Adam and Eve no doubt suggested by contemporary Dutch woodcuts, and a quaint painted model group from early 19th-century India, commemorating the reception of a British official by a local ruler. Who would have thought splendours could be so much fun?

Spink, 5 King Street, St James's, SW1 (0171-930 7888), until May 23

□ DURING his heyday on the London art scene in the Fifties and Sixties, Francis Newton (generally known simply as F.N.) Souza always seemed to have something exotic about him. This was no doubt because there was something exotic: he came from Goa, and showed evidence sometimes, not only of a luxuriant, sub-tropical imagination, but of more specific reference to both the Portuguese and the Indian strands in that curious and complex culture. All the same, he spoke the language of the tribe and the London tribe then was frequently gathered round the kitchen sink. The scratchy, angular style of draughtsmanship in vogue at the time is much in evidence in the retrospective at Julian Hartnoll. Although the full-breasted naked women look a bit baroque for the average bed-sit, the austereities of that faraway pre-Beatle period still peek through. The question of what happened next is not completely answered, but we gather that he went to America and became a hermit. With the renewal of interest in the art of postwar bohemia, this seems the perfect moment for reassessment.

Julian Hartnoll, 14 Mason's Yard, SW1 (0171-839 3842), until May 31

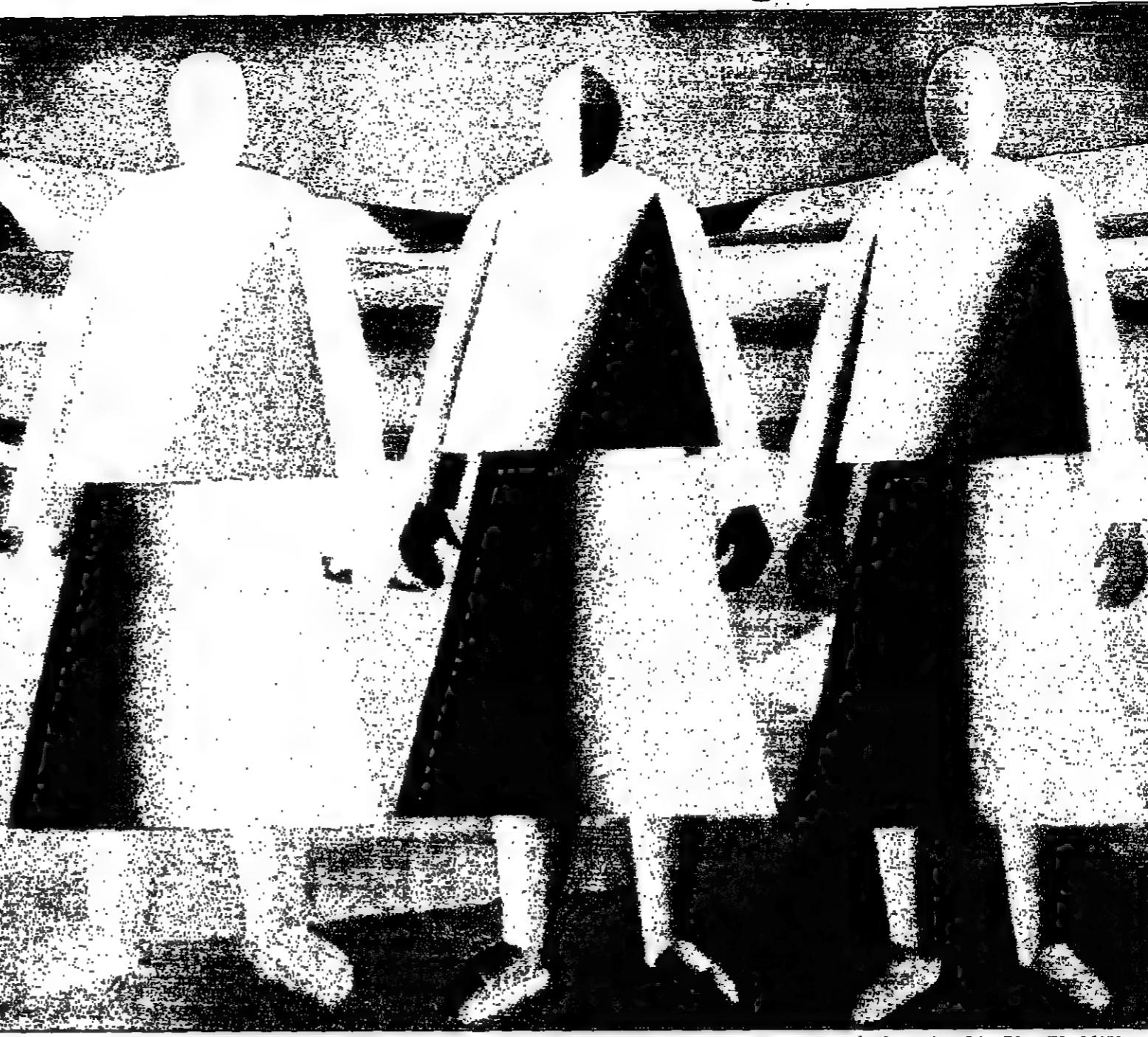
... and the postwar bohemian art of F.N. Souza is the subject of a retrospective at Julian Hartnoll

Splendour of the East: a commemorative model with painted and gilded ivory figures (c 1830-40)

JOHN RUSSELL TAYLOR

VISUAL ART: Richard Cork on Berlin's revelatory 20th-century show

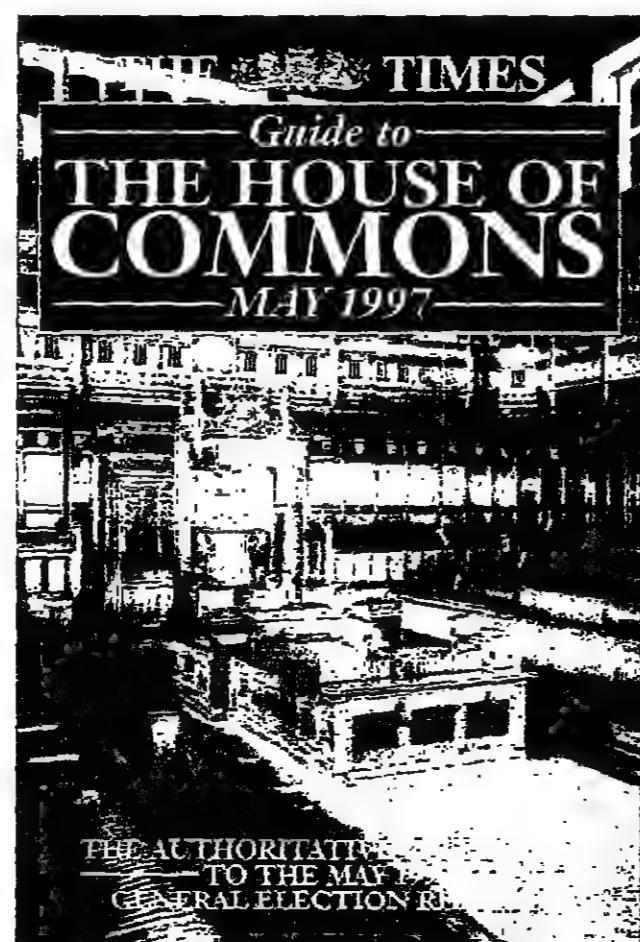
Mods for every mood



After the Armistice: Kazimir Malevich's *Maidens in a Field* is one of several paintings to evoke emotions in the wake of the First World War

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Until its sudden cancellation, by far the biggest London exhibition of the year was scheduled as *The Age of Modernism*. In an unprecedented act of collaboration, the Royal Academy would have joined forces with the Hayward Gallery, the Whitechapel Gallery and the National Portrait Gallery to present an autumn blockbuster. Twentieth-century art at its most innovative was to be surveyed through more than 400 works, charting the revolutionary changes in this fragmented, perpetually restless era.

Difficulties with securing loans for long periods meant that, in the end, this extraordinarily ambitious show is only being staged at its initial venue in Berlin, the mighty Martin-Gropius-Bau, a lavishly embellished 19th-century showpiece. In the main, it proves spacious enough to display all four sections of the exhibition without strain.

Despite the wrist-cracking weight of the catalogue, and the unwise claim that "a comprehensive survey" is on offer, the show is ruthlessly selective. It had to be. A more inclusive approach would result in appalling congestion, along with an inability to give landmark achievements the prominence they deserve. The omissions were bound to be painful, and some are puzzling. Only eight British artists are on view, most of them represented by a single work. The show is an overwhelmingly male affair, with nine women and 121 men. Early 20th-century sculpture is hard to find, while contemporary practitioners as eminent as Anthony Caro are nowhere. No artist under 40 has been included, thereby ensuring that the provocative new art of the 1990s much missed.

To set against these frustrating lacunae, though, the show has an awesome abundance of first-rate work. The initial section, *Reality and Distortion*, opens with a formidable *Seated Female Nude* by Picasso. Painted in 1908, just after the explosive advent of *Les Demoiselles d'Avignon*, this figure announces the birth of a rough-hewn, barbaric vision. Picasso's uncompromising toughness is paired with the lyrical audacity of Matisse at the same period. But the rest of the show proves that its selectors, Christos Joachimides and Norman Rosenthal, prefer Picasso to his great rival Matisse's radiant late cut-outs altogether.

The Cubist room is marvellous, emphasising the austere melancholy of Picasso's great *Accordionist* by juxtaposing it with the clangorous exuberance of Delaunay's *The Eiffel Tower*. The machine age is celebrated in all its dynamism next door, where the Futurists fill their space with rapturous energy. And Expressionism is given still more prominence, even if Lehmbruck's attenuated bust contrast oddly with rasping images of cabaret and circus performers by Kirchner and Nolde.

The trauma of the First World War should have been given greater emphasis. But Kokoschka's vulnerable *Knight Errant*, no less than Kirchner's stabbing vision of naked, vulnerable artillerymen in the shower-room, are both outstanding. When the post-Armistice "return to order" arrives, it is powerfully summarised by Picasso's monumental classicism. Malevich's peasant girls lined up like metallic soldiers, and an arresting picture of running athletes by the Russian Alexander Deineka, the only unfamiliar name in the exhibition.

Does he really deserve a place here? The question needs asking, when so many better-known artists have been excluded. Pressures of space suddenly become impossible to ignore in the overcrowded rooms devoted to portraiture. But among the tide of canvases, a neurotic Schiele, a wistful Modigliani and a baleful Beckmann stand out. Spencer's merciless *Self-Portrait with Patricia Preece* looks thoroughly at home next to Dix and the equally steely Schad. So does Freud's *The Painter's Mother*, one of the finest later works by an artist whose early years were spent in Berlin.

After such a dense display, I was relieved to encounter the open-plan layout of the second section. Its presiding genius is Duchamp, whose subversive ready-made objects bought on shopping sprees are still so influential. The interplay between Dada and Pop Art, with their shared love of everyday trash, is rewardingly explored. Early Rauschenberg here seems like the heir to Schwitters, while Warhol's stacked Brillo Pad boxes descend directly from Du-

champ's department-store purchases.

Even so, Warhol's lacerating car-crash pictures mark him out from Duchamp's witty provocation. As the section proceeds, the mood darkens even further. Kiehnholz's *Illegal Operation*, furiously lit by a single bulb, is unbearably sad and squirm. All the props in Beuys's theatrical *Earthquake in the Palace* seem about to be pulverised, and the scrap-metal rocket-launchers by the short-lived Pino Pascali bristle with the Cold War tensions of the 1960s.

Above all, though, the diversity of materials shows just how liberating Duchamp was. Nauman's nimble readiness to move from aluminium to neon tubing and video would be unthinkable without Duchamp's example.

Upstairs, a startlingly different direction is explored. If Picasso's 1908 masterpieces made the opening downstairs room so powerful, here Kandinsky's stunnings early abstractions have a similar impact. His two greatest *Compositions*, on loan from Moscow and St Petersburg, were both painted in 1913. For all their obsession with apocalypse and the Last Judgment, they are an ecstatic proclamation. For the artist's freedom to enter an abstract universe, and roam around its gravity-flowing expanses, is claimed with exhilarating panache.

Never again would Kandinsky paint with such sensuous vivacity. Malevich's nearby black-on-white paintings of a square, a circle and a cross appear forbidding and crudely handled by comparison. His extremism, though, still has the ability to astound. However many references to sound waves, aeroplanes and football players may lurk in these austere paintings, their insistence on purged, primal form is revolutionary.

So is the work of his most zealous Russian contemporaries. Their paintings, especially between 1916 and 1918, seem to prophesy later developments. Matisse anticipates both Newman and Rothko, Popova looks forward to Matisse's final period, and Matiushin's astonishing *Movement in Space* lays the foundation for all the stripe paintings of the 1960s.

The urge to concentrate on an abstract language flourished at times of international crisis. Kandinsky and other Russians did much of their finest work during the First World War. In New York Abstract Expressionism flourished when the Allied struggle against Hitler was at its bloodiest. The turmoil of war nurtured the tempestuousness of Pollock and de Kooning, but it also impelled Newman and Reinhardt to pare their canvases down to absolute essentials. They, in turn, helped to encourage the Minimalists, and Richard Long's *Standing Stone Line* holds its own with ease near Andre's cracked wooden posts and Judd's gleaming industrialised units.

Irrational impulses could not, however, be held in abeyance everywhere. De Chirico, the founding father of the final section, inaugurated the Modernist love affair with dreams. Surrealism is well represented, in the free-association looseness of Miró as much as the painstaking precision of Dali. But I was especially fascinated by the later rooms, where Moore's dream-like strangeness is well-emphasised at the expense of his familiar earth mother obsession.

Hopper, who could so easily have appeared in a Realist context, is presented here almost as a visionary. I enjoyed the unpredictable pairing of Morandi with Balthus. Kiefer's anguished meditations on the legacy of Fascism have never been seen in a Surrealist light before. But his forest painting can be linked with Ernst and his empty, echoing hall with de Chirico. As for *Violin's Anthem*, its howling wolf soundtrack, snake in the tree, eye operation and soundlessly screaming girl all prove that video art can be as unsettling as a nightmare.

This epic, constantly illuminating exhibition closes on a hallucinatory note with Robert Gober's trousered leg projecting from a blank, white wall. It looks like the severed limb of a corpse, as snuffed out as the candle rising so inexplicably from the equally waxen flesh. Against all the odds, though, the candle also sounds a stubborn, note of faith. The century's art may be coming to an end with mortality in mind, but its ability to haunt us remains as potent and unpredictable as ever.

• *The Age of Modernism*. Martin-Gropius-Bau, Berlin (030-2546714) until July 27



■ MIME

Marcel Marceau goes through the motions as he celebrates 50 years of Bip at the Festival Hall



■ FESTIVAL

A new staging of J.M. Barrie's classic *Peter Pan* is one of the highlights of Glasgow's Mayfest

THE TIMES ARTS



■ CHOICE 1

Julie-Alanah Brighten is the fairer half of *Beauty and the Beast*
VENUE: Opens tonight at the Dominion Theatre



■ CHOICE 2
Brad Fraser's drama, *Poor Super Man*, opens tonight
VENUE: At the Royal Exchange, Manchester

Here's one I performed earlier

Marcel Marceau returned to London on Saturday and there are two things to report. The first is the show the audience enjoyed at the Festival Hall. They saw one of the enduring theatre artists of the 20th century, the man who has made a style of white-faced mime his own personal brand. Indeed, they applauded the very first appearance of this figure, dressed in his trademark white tunic, bell-bottom flares flapping, white dance shoes splayed, greasepaint-

Marcel Marceau
Festival Hall

gashed mouth agrimace. They chuckled, sighed and held their breath as he went through paces familiar from the past 50 years.

The first half comprised some of Marceau's mimodramas, including *The Painter*, *The Small Café* and *Youth, Maturity, Old Age and Death*. The audience adored these bijou studies sketching patterns of hope and defeat. They were even more entranced of the pieces in the second half, featuring Marceau's creation Bip, for which he dons a grey tunic and concave top hat replete with red flower. Marceau's international tour celebrates the fiftieth anniversary of his first piece of Bipperly. Various old favourites were there: Bip, as light-tamer, Bip as a street musician, Bip and the dating service. The ovation at the end was for a lone performer who creates a world of feeling and metaphor out of the simple dynamics of gesture.

Now to report the show your critic saw. Here was a mime going through too many mimetic motions. Here was the



Marcel Marceau, cocooned in the fog of distant triumphs, has become a moving museum piece

boulevardier Marceau, whose array of eye contact with the audience marks the consummate crowd-pleaser. But what lies at the bottom of his showmanship? His mini-dramas appear to contain a wealth of idiosyncrasy, but this serves to recycle dusty caricatures rather than anything that springs from modern life.

You cannot gainsay Marceau's per-

formance technique, more extraordinary still for a seventysomething whose physical feats are the envy of much younger men. But if you judge an artist by his continued creativity, you realise that Marceau stands in the shadow of his younger self. He presents himself as the embodiment of a classic style, but the line between genius and guardianship has been

crossed. Cocooned in the fog of distant triumphs, he has become a moving museum piece. This is valuable, because he embodies for new audiences a once-influential style of mime. But it makes him less than living: a virtual Marceau, transplanted from a time when his every move mattered.

ANDY LAVENDER

Lincoln green pixie boots and tights approach. Like Peter, though, it is a production that cannot decide which world it wants to live in. On one hand the Lost Boys are nestled down in a cardboard city-like Never-Land, yet are far too thigh-slappingly cheeky for the point – if intended – to come across. Hook's sidekick Smee is a little Englander clad in Union Jack T-shirt and knotted hanky, while Hook somewhat tiresomely strokes his false appendage with seemingly lascivious intent.

But there is more to *Peter Pan* than meets the eye. In a way its analysis of emotionally stunted mummified boys up for fun as a precursor to the current mad-for-it lad culture, where getting high as a kite is all that matters, and responsibilities are for cissies and grown-ups.

This is typical TAG, alive with director Tony Graham's regular box of tricks, from the big open staging to the irrelevant if well-drilled gymnastic displays that do nothing but distract from the job at hand.

Here there is even a trio of multi-functional poles which double up occasionally as isometric bars.

It is a charmingly acted, lively affair, with a sparkly Susan Nisbet in the title role, light years away from the

kind in Stuart Paterson's new version of *Peter Pan* for TAG, at the Tramway. Paterson has mastered the art of injecting new zest and colour into classic children's stories and affording his audience the respect they deserve. Even then though, they are normally trundled out only at pantomime, so J.M. Barrie's high-flying tale of the terminal adolescent looking for somewhere nice to land seems a curious if worthy idea to skip around the maypole with.

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This is typical TAG, alive with director Tony Graham's regular box of tricks, from the big open staging to the irrelevant if well-drilled gymnastic displays that do nothing but distract from the job at hand.

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Off to a flying start

FESTIVAL

Mayfest
Glasgow

taking flight and crawling from the wreckage. The fact that the two protagonists spend the bulk of the play on their backs speaks volumes. Only an anthem gets them on their feet.

The pair spar mercilessly, abusing each other via scatological vulgarities centred on bodily functions, the only intimacy it is possible to share. A silent observer/fantasy figure watches proceedings from beneath a postman's cap, stepping out like an extra from *Cabaret*. Imagine Steptoe and Son minus the distractions of sex, or any double act from Beckett's long line of co-dependents. There are shades, too, in its linguistic twists and turns of Tom Murphy's *Baileys* and *Gangaire*, and Jim Cartwright's *Bed*.

The translation by Brown and Ian Hogg blessedly familiar with near poetic status, yet on the first night at least its full music is rarely brought out in a big, brave ramshackle

production full of heart but simply too languid for its own good. Where the complex cut and thrust of things should be delivered in a rapid-fire, machinegun approach, it is savoured with an over-reverent relish which never allows it to break free. And when things do look set to soar, albeit in a barking-mad way, the whole thing gets far too excited and loses the plot.

Only in the last third, when the nonplussed neighbours shrug their shoulders and carry on with life regardless, do things move at anything like the pace they should. This is the flux and disarray of a nation about to sprout wings once more.

There is flying of a different

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THE TIMES TODAY

TUESDAY MAY 13 1997

NEWS

Clarke warns of swing to Right

■ Kenneth Clarke delivered a stark warning to the Conservative Party last night that it would make itself unelectable like the Labour of the early 1980s if it swung to the Right and became more anti-European.

The former Chancellor enlivened the Tory leadership race by claiming that the stance on the single currency adopted by the other five candidates "would drive us to the political fringe both at home and in European politics" — Page 1, 10

BA 747's door starts to open in flight

■ A British Airways Boeing 747 carrying more than 300 passengers had to return to Gatwick after a door handle started to spin open immediately after take-off. Two cabin crew forced it back as air was whistling from the top and bottom of the door and the plane climbed to 21,000ft — Page 1, 10

Paying-up time

Tony Blair is to throw a £2 billion lifeline to Britain's hundreds of thousands of small companies by announcing stringent legislative proposals to stop the late payment of bills — Page 1

Brussels agrees

Gordon Brown won clearance from Brussels for the Government's plan to reduce VAT on heating fuel and to quashed speculation about Britain re-entering the ERM — Page 2

Banker tells of racism

A merchant banker who was earning £750,000 a year as he told an industrial tribunal how racism had blighted his career at Goldman Sachs. He said he was a "token black face" — Page 2

Jurors cleared

Two women jurors jailed for contempt of court for refusing to reach a verdict were cleared by the Appeal Court, which criticised the trial judge — Page 3

Gulf War claims

Gulf War veterans have renewed claims that they were exposed to sarin, mustard gas and other nerve agents, in a Channel 4 documentary — Page 4

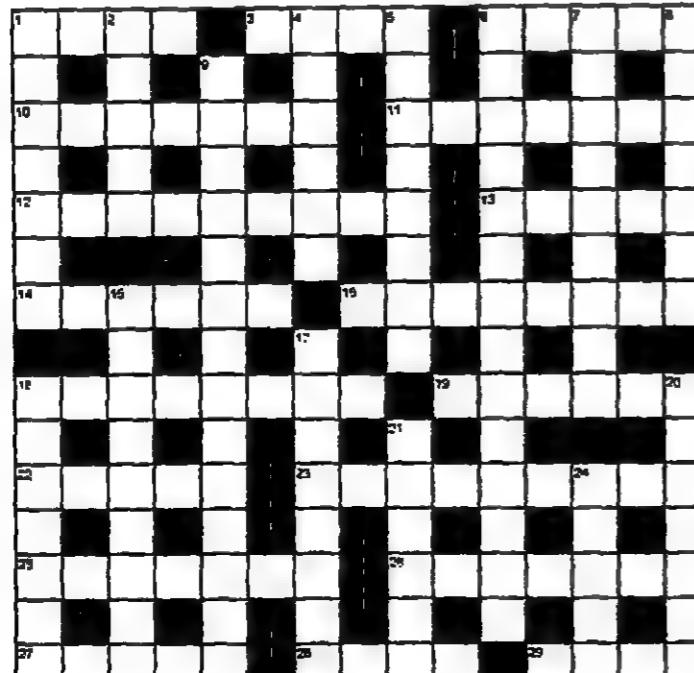
Not amused

Billy Connolly, speaking at the Cannes Film Festival where his *Mrs Brown* is being premiered, deplored the latest generation of comedians — Page 5

Australian swimmer sinks record

■ Susie Maroney, 22, Australia's long-distance swimming champion, became the first person officially to swim unassisted across the 112-mile Straits of Florida separating Cuba and the American mainland. She swam in a 28ft by 8ft shark-proof cage and reached Key West in 24 hr 20 min. Asked how she planned to celebrate she replied, "just to rest" — Page 1

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,478



ACROSS

1 Standard in aim for on course (4).
3 Send out to get great physician back (4).
6 Get into gear in a Mini, perhaps (5).
10 Marked above zero? (7).
11 Spirit of the House (7).
12 Popular conclusion that's no longer common? (9).
13 Try to see time on ticker (5).
14 US lawyer to screen material (6).
16 Paramount chief (8).
18 Like the territory Darwin grew up in (8).
19 Conventions put years on Uncle Sam (6).
22 Respectful form of address reversing hard-hearted prejudice (5).
23 Bardell, for example, in case of simple misunderstanding (9).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,477

14 INCHES/STER CLEF
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INTERNS EMOTIVE
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THE TIMES

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Australians return
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ring of confidence
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BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

TUESDAY MAY 13 1997

Regan settles CWS civil suit

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM

ANDREW REGAN, the entrepreneur who led the abortive £1.2 billion bid to take over the Co-operative Wholesale Society, yesterday settled the civil action brought against him by CWS out of court.

He and David Lyons, his business partner, and Allan Green, a former CWS executive who helped them to prepare their bid, are understood to have agreed to pay CWS up to £1 million.

In return for the payment, the civil action against the three men and Galileo, the company set up for the takeover and Lanica Trust, the quoted investment company run by Mr Regan, has been dropped.

Lanica itself made no contribution to the settlement and with the threat of expensive legal action now lifted, its shares, which have been suspended since February, are expected to begin trading again later this week. Its results have been audited, and only the Stock Exchange's agreement is now needed for the figures to be released and the shares to return.

Yesterday's settlement comes after a similar arrangement was reached two weeks ago with Mr Regan's main advisers, Harbours Bank and Travis Smith Braithwaite.

Lanica noted yesterday that the liquidator of Galileo is considering bringing claims against some former advisers. The liquidator, Jason Ellis of Ernst & Young, would have to ask shareholders in Galileo whether they would fund the legal action and he is expected to make a decision on that in the next fortnight.

The CWS is still pursuing a private criminal action against Mr Green. Mr Regan and Mr Lyons over the alleged theft of commercially sensitive documents by Mr Green. Lanica said that Mr Regan and Mr Lyons "intend to defend these proceedings vigorously".

By SARAH
CUNNINGHAM
AND ALASDAIR
MURRAY

THE biggest merger between two British companies was unveiled yesterday when Grand Metropolitan and Guinness said that they would combine to form a £23.8 billion group.

The merged companies will be renamed GMG Brands and will constitute Britain's eighth-largest listed company, the world's seventh-largest food and drinks group and its single largest wine and spirits business. The drink brands brought together include GrandMet's Smirnoff vodka, Baileys and Cinzano with Guinness-owned Johnnie Walker, Bell's Scotch whisky and Gordon's gin. It will also unite GrandMet's US food businesses, which include Burger King, Häagen-Dazs ice cream and Green Giant vegetables, with the famous Guinness brewing business.

The deal, which is subject to European Union and United States regulatory approval, will be followed by a one-off cash payment to shareholders of at least £2.4 billion, or 60p per share. Guinness shareholders will retain their shares in GMG Brands while GrandMet shareholders will receive one new GMG share for each GrandMet share.

News of the merger sent GrandMet's shares soaring 162p to 501p, while Guinness leapt 80p to 602p.

However, it has already met with opposition from Bernard Arnault, a non-executive director of France's LVMH-Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton, which has a 14.2 per cent stake in Guinness.

He voted against the deal at a board meeting on Friday and yesterday suggested an alternative involving the three spirits and wines businesses of GrandMet, Guinness and Moët Hennessy, as an independent listed group. GrandMet and Guinness told him that all the other directors favoured the creation of GMG Brands.

Tony Greener, who is chairman of Guinness and will be joint chairman of GMG, said that talks were still going on with M. Arnault.

The merger should create cost savings of about £175 million per year in the third year and involve around 2,000 job cuts worldwide in the merged drinks division, which is to be named United Distillers and Vintners or UDV. UDV accounts for about 20,000 of the total combined workforce of 85,000.

The total cost of achieving the savings is expected to be about £375 million.

The merger has caused reverberations across the globe.

Seagram, the Canadian drinks and media company, and Brown Forman Corporation, which owns Jack Daniels, are likely to fight back by

looking for their own deals. Shares in Allied Domecq, seen as a possible bid target, closed up 16p, at 446p.

George Bull, chairman of GrandMet, will be joint chairman until July next year when he will retire, leaving Mr Greener as full-time chairman. The deal is not expected to be completed much before the end of this year.

John McGrath of GrandMet will be group chief executive. Jack Keenan, also of GrandMet, will head UDV, with Finn Johnson from Guinness, as his deputy. Philip Yeo of Guinness will be group finance director, leaving no role for Gerald Corbett, the GrandMet finance director, who will leave once the merger is completed.

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Rivals exposed, page 31
Diary, page 31

George Bull, chairman of GrandMet, and Tony Greener, chairman of Guinness, celebrating after yesterday's merger announcement.

Sterling bounces back as UK stays firm on ERM

By ALASDAIR MURRAY

THE POUND bounced back on the foreign exchanges late yesterday after Gordon Brown said he has no intention of taking Britain back into the European Exchange Rate Mechanism.

The stock market also hit a new record, buoyed by the Guinness/Grand Metropolitan merger and a strong rally on Wall Street.

The pound closed up nearly two pence against the German mark at DM2.7631 while sterling's trade weighted index rose half a point to 98.5. The new Chancellor of the Exchequer informed European finance ministers that there was no substance in rumours that

the Government wanted the pound to rejoin the ERM at DM2.50. Earlier in the day the pound had fallen to a seven-week low of DM2.7268 on expectations that the Bank of England will use its quarterly inflation bulletin today to argue that there is no immediate need for a rate rise.

The FTSE 100 closed up 38.7 points at 4669.6 as Wall Street rose 91 points in early trading. The Guinness and GrandMet merger plan helped the market higher with rival companies such as Allied Domecq gaining on bid speculation.

New economic data showed that the strength of the pound is continuing to hold back

Anatole Kalatzky, page 31

factory-gate inflation. Input prices, which measure the price of raw materials, fell by 1.9 per cent in April taking the annual rate of decline to 10.5 per cent - the largest fall since 1986. Factory gate prices rose by 0.2 per cent in April and by 0.8 per cent year-on-year.

High Street sales increased again, according to the British Retail Consortium. Like-for-like volume rose 4.1 per cent compared with 3.7 per cent in March. The BRC said quarterly growth registered only 4 per cent - the lowest level since the end of 1995. Retail goods inflation was 0.9 per cent.

Note of caution, page 29
Tempus, page 30

Argos shares are hit by chief's alert

SHARES in Argos fell 27p to 623p yesterday after the catalogue retailer said that interim profits would fail to match results reported for the first half of the previous year.

The company, whose shares rose 798p late last year, said that a number of markers in which Argos trades continue to be sluggish or were even falling back compared with 1996. A combination of increased costs and lower interest income, because of the payment of last year's special dividend, would have an adverse impact on profits.

Argos shares are hit by chief's alert

SHOULD the Government be forced to revalue the pound, it will be a major blow to the British economy. The Bank of England has already warned that a devaluation would lead to a sharp increase in inflation and a fall in living standards.

Argos shares are hit by chief's alert

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UK to end opposition to job rule in trade pacts

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THE Government is to reverse a key aspect of Britain's trade policy with the rest of the world by backing the adoption of minimum job standards linked to trade agreements.

The move will mark a complete about-turn from what was, under the Conservatives, probably Britain's principal policy position on the issue of world trade.

Ministers are set to alter Britain's policy by supporting the idea of a 'social clause' - a stipulation to be attached to world trade agreements that countries covered by them must adopt prescribed minimum standards on employment rights. Previously, Britain

was a vociferous opponent of the policy, which is strongly endorsed by countries including the US, France and Sweden, but is opposed by countries such as Singapore and Korea. The UK's opposition to a social clause was seen as the central aspect of its world trade policy.

Just as Britain is now to sign the social chapter for the EU, ministers will now support a social clause from the US and elsewhere. They are likely to raise the topic at next month's meeting of the Group of Seven industrialised nations in Denver, Colorado.

The change was signalled yesterday by Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, as he launched the Foreign Office's new mission statement. Mr Cook said: 'Labour is committed to a social clause in the World Trade Organisation. Unfortunately, the Conservative Government opposed this. But we are determined to get it back on the agenda.'

Supporters of a social clause say it will help to even the economic balance between currently low-cost world producers, mainly in emerging economies, and more advanced economies. Opponents claim that it will increase poverty in Third World countries and may push up prices of some internationally traded goods.

He said larger firms could just use their muscle to negotiate longer payment periods to avoid any risk of incurring a penalty. The payment could then be made as slowly as before. A standardised payment period would circumvent this. But Mr Farrow said members wanted flexibility in arranging terms with foreign companies.

Ruth Lea, head of the policy unit at the Institute of Directors, which was expecting a period of consultation, said a legal framework might legitimise late payment, making it look more respectable. The IOD is keen on measures to make court action against late payers easier.

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JOHN CHARCOL

What wondrous things can be accomplished when boardroom egos make way for commercial logic. The coupling of Grand Metropolitan and Guinness creates a business with the strength to take on the global market and win. Tony Greener recognised this as the crucial move for Guinness three years ago, but it took the appointment last year of George Bull as chairman at GrandMet to give the deal any chance of being accomplished. Bull's predecessor, Lord Sheppard of Didgeon, would have had some difficulty in mastering the concept of a genuine merger, let alone the idea of a joint chairmanship.

But together these two major British companies have just 5 per cent of the world's spirits market. If they are to successfully compete against the other 95 per cent, then they stand more chance together than apart. This message will not be wasted on drinks rivals Allied Domecq and Seagram, who could now be forced into partnership themselves.

There remains one monster ego trying to stand in the way of this logical marriage... but Monsieur Bernard Arnault speaks for just 14.2 per cent of Guinness, so his petty peevishness over the company's failure to adhere to his preferred strategy of demergering the business is merely an irritation, not an obstacle. Ideally, M. Arnault will demonstrate his displeasure by selling his Guinness stake, putting the proceeds to

Bull moves into Greener pastures



COMMENTARY

by our City Editor

work in buying another couture label to employ an out-of-work British dressmaker. Should he really wish to sever all links with Guinness, then the new groupings would happily buy his majority stake in Moët Hennessy to swell its portfolio of luxury drinks brands.

The new entity, unhelpfully dubbed GMG Brands, which hardly does credit to the combined advertising skills of the two organisations, is the antithesis of the demerger M. Arnault advocated. The parties insist that they not only want to hang on to Guinness brewing, but also that food is an integral part of their plans. The synergies of world marketing apply whatever the product may be, they claim. The customers are the same whether the product is food or drink.

GrandMet has been through its enforced slimming course but has not lost its taste for calories. Depressing though the thought may be, Burger King claims fourth place in the table of world brands, and, thanks to the wonders of franchising, it can stretch further, with little recourse to central coffers.

Those coffers, however, will be flush with cash, throwing up almost £1 billion a year. It could go back to shareholders, as

debtors will in the course of this deal, or it could go on acquisitions. Food, rather than drink, is likely to be the target. Conspiracy theorists are already pointing to Dominic Cadbury's exit from the combined board as a hint of excitement to come.

After the inevitable acquisitions, and a few fat years as the undoubtedly synergies of the merger fall into place, someone, probably a City banker, might be heard to mutter about the merits of demerging.

The Post Office would like to be freed of government restraints, but Margaret Beckett, the Trade and Industry supremo, has indicated privatisation is not a possibility.

She would, however, like to help the Post Office in its quest for improved competitiveness. So what is to be done?

There will be some scrabbling with semantics as the Department of Trade and Industry and the Treasury struggle to find a means of allowing a non-privatised Post Office to borrow cash without it adding to the public sector borrowing requirement.

Those who run the Royal Mail and Post Office Counters have examined some innovative plans for raising funds. There is the possibility of joint ventures — such as the link formed by the Dutch post office with the airline KLM — but that idea has so far been dashed by the Treasury's reluctance to allow public money to be linked with a private, and therefore potentially risky, body.

But if necessary, this could be changed with some quick rule rewriting. We might see the Government consigning the Post Office to a new status which might, however artificially, exempt it from PSBR bondage.

Declaring it an independent organisation operating under a charter — in a similar fashion to the BBC, might come close to the desired aim. For this the monopoly activities of the Royal Mail would have to be regulated, which should not cause too many problems.

Another route to pour more money into the Post Office would be to reduce its obligations to pay back cash to the Government under the external financing limits.

This year that requirement demands £310 million. Last year the Post Office made pre-tax profits of £480 million.

Also a possibility, though a far more sensitive one, would be selling off chunks of the organisation. So long as the Government still retained more than 50 per cent of the Post Office it would remain state-owned.

Some have argued that ownership of a minority stake by small investors and employees would be palatable. How to ensure the permanence of such an ownership is another matter.

Privatisation was last a big

issue for the Post Office during last year's protracted strikes. The Communication Workers Union, which starts its annual conference on Sunday, will be looking for some indication that the Post Office is now in friendly hands.

They might soon have to peer behind the mirrors to make quite sure of what they are seeing.

Serving the interest of small business

Enshrining a legal right to interest on late payment is not the panacea to small business ills which it might initially appear to be.

Michael Heseltine caused a furore when he revealed that, in the course of building up his own business he had taken advantage of delaying payment to creditors. The only surprise in this should have been that a politician had stooped to such honest recollections: as a successful entrepreneur, the likelihood was that Hezza would have used to his advantage all the available financial tools.

Big business is not the only offender in meeting bills on time and one of the main

reasons why the previous government shied away from the legislation now being suggested is because of a fear that the main burden might fall upon small firms themselves.

There are other measures which a government keen to aid small firms should be looking at before moving towards measures that may prove to be little more than an empty gesture.

The Business Links idea which was the main focus of the Conservatives plan for taking aid and succor to small firms is still a muddle of good intentions and poor implementation. Deregulation, which should have lifted many of the burdens that weigh down small firms, has failed to deliver half the red tape cuts it should have done.

If small firms are to prosper, they will benefit from establishing strong relationships with major customers, and legislation will not help.

Lottery U-turn

□ If Camelot is to be included in the windfall tax, it will be Labour's first U-turn. It was 20 days ago that Jack Cunningham, then Heritage spokesman, said on Radio 5: "Camelot is not a privatised utility. And we've made it clear that the windfall tax is going to be aimed at privatised utilities. That doesn't include Camelot." Now his portfolio is agriculture, where, perhaps, his pronouncements on beef will have to be chewed with care.

Argos shares drop on note of caution

BY SARAH CUNNINGHAM

ARGOS, the catalogue retailing group, cautioned investors that its first-half profits are unlikely to match those of last year, but said it remained confident that business will pick up in the more important second half.

The words of warning which were more explicit than those used at the time of its 1996 results in March, when it said interim profits would be broadly flat, sent Argos shares tumbling 23p to 824½p. The company issued a profit warning in January about its 1996 results, which knocked 15 per cent off the value of its shares in a single day.

Sir Richard Lloyd, chairman, told the annual meeting that comparable store sales in the first 18 weeks of this year were 5.5 per cent higher. Total sales were 12 per cent ahead, roughly in line with analysts' expectations, and follow a particularly successful first half last year, which saw like-for-like sales growth of 9 per cent in the first quarter and 13 per cent in the second quarter.

Tempus, page 30

News Corp to defend \$5bn lawsuit

BY ERIC REEDY

PLANS by EchoStar and The News Corporation to merge their American satellite operations collapsed yesterday after EchoStar launched a \$5 billion lawsuit against News Corp, alleging breach of contract.

A spokesman for News Corp, parent company of *The Times*, said: "We do not think their case has any merit. We will fight the case in court."

EchoStar is seeking the damages because of "lost profits" and what it alleges were "material breaches" of the merger agreement made in February, in which News Corp agreed to pay \$1 billion in cash and assets for a 50 per cent stake in EchoStar.

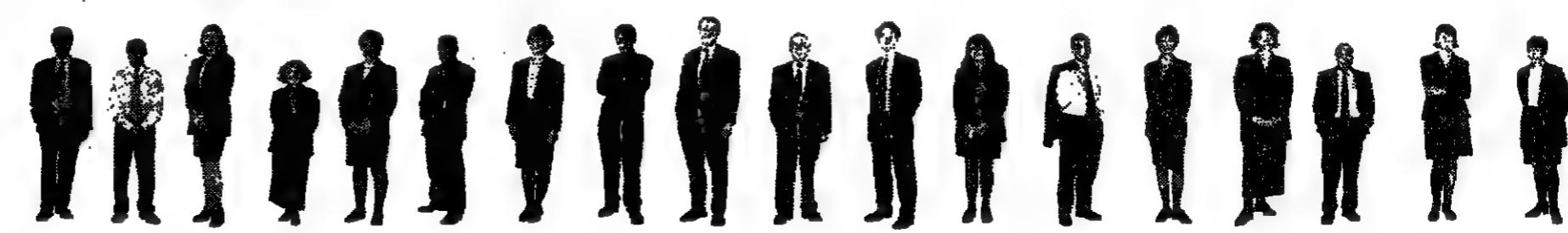
EchoStar revealed last month that the deal was in jeopardy, but News Corp held out hope that the transaction could be completed. News Corp said it is now "pursuing a number of options" to enter the digital satellite-TV market in the US.

Ethical seeks full SE listing to raise £20m

ETHICAL HOLDINGS, a UK biotech company trading on the American Nasdaq market, is to seek a full listing on the London Stock Exchange (Adam Jones writes).

The move had been rumoured since Dr Peter Fellner, chief executive of Celltech, one of the biggest UK biotech players, joined the board as a non-executive director last month.

Ethical, which is based in Sibbington, Cambridgeshire, aims to raise £20 million of new money to fund the development of new drug delivery systems.



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Not bad for a first day



Food and drinks rivals left exposed by merger bombshell

Alasdair Murray on the global repercussions of the unexpected 'big bang' deal by Guinness and GrandMet

The City was quick to dub the bombshell merger between Grand Metropolitan and Guinness as 'the consumer industries' "big bang". At a stroke, and with impressively little warning given the number of parties involved in preparing the deal, the two companies have revolutionised the global spirits and food market.

The figures involved in the £22.8 billion deal are staggering. It is the biggest merger between two British companies — creating the UK's eighth-largest quoted company, GMG Brands, as it will be known, becomes the world's seventh-largest branded foods and drinks business, and the leading spirits and wine company with combined annual sales above 100 million cases.

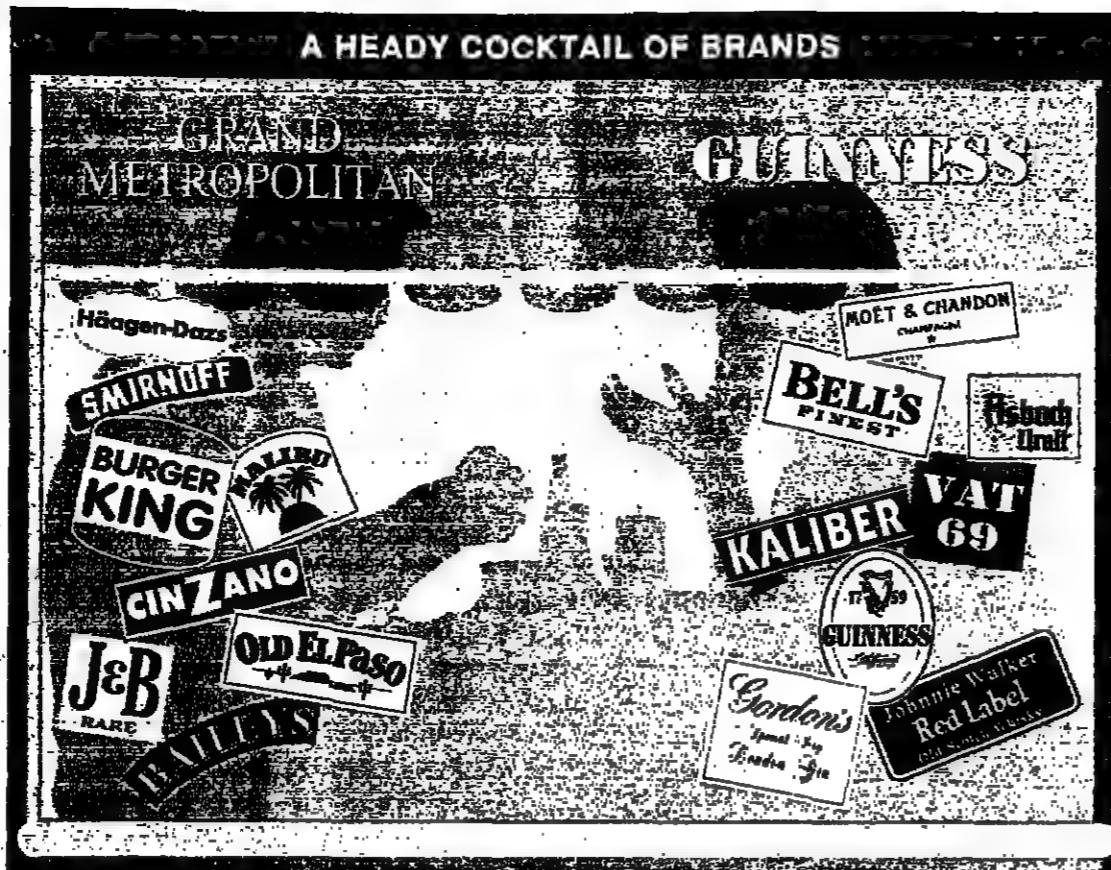
The repercussions will be felt further afield than the boardrooms of British rivals such as Allied Domecq and Cadbury Schweppes. Seagram, the other main player in the drinks market, will have to take notice but companies as diverse as Nestlé and Pepsi Cola will also want to work out what it could mean for their plans.

The two chairmen claimed yesterday to have dreamt up the merger over dinner. But the seeds of the merger were sown at the start of the last recession when the major drinks companies began to catch a cold after the heady days of the 1980s.

The drinks companies suddenly found they could no longer sell branded spirits at will. Consumers had grown more price-conscious and resistant to the traditional aspirational-led marketing campaigns. The companies responded by cutting back on marketing spend to protect profits and found that they were losing market share to the own-brand labels being sold in the supermarkets. At the same time, the emerging markets — the promised lands of global expansion — were not yet contributing serious profits.

Guinness and Grand Metropolitan were left sounding like a scratched record constantly telling the City that volume improvements and price increases were just around the corner. But profits steadfastly refused to budge.

Guinness began to come under pressure from Bernard Arnault, chairman of LVMH-Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton and a major shareholder, to demerge its brewing arm. At Grand Metropolitan, Lord Sheppard of Didgeon, who had led the company's 1980s takeover frenzy,



stepped down as chairman to be replaced last year by George Bull, who promised the City he would tidy up the sprawling conglomerate to concentrate on its US food and global spirits businesses. But the companies still failed to impress the market. Guinness underperformed the FT-SE 100 by 13 per cent last year, while GrandMet lagged the benchmark UK index by 7 per cent.

The City wanted to see the companies take more radical action and eagerly seized on a leaked Lazard's report last year detailing how Guinness could launch a £13 billion takeover bid for GrandMet. Guinness would raise £10 billion in cash and recoup the costs by selling off GrandMet's food interests.

But Guinness dismissed the ideas

a "fantasy boardroom" project never intended to see the light of day. In the process Tony Greener, Guinness's chairman, also ruled out demerging the brewing business, further infuriating M. Arnault.

But less than a year later the fantasy has come close to reality, leaving the City with few bad words to say about the deal. There is little overlap between the brands, which

should help the two companies to clear expected regulatory hurdles in Europe and America. International Distillers and Vintners, the spirits subsidiary of GrandMet, is strong in white spirits such as Smirnoff vodka, the world's second-best spirits seller, Baileys and Malibu. But the company only has one major whisky in J&B, which is the second-largest

selling brand of Scotch worldwide. In contrast, Guinness's strength is almost entirely in whisky and gin, with Johnnie Walker, Bell's, Gordon's Gin and Tanqueray among its best-known brands. Analysts believe that a sell-off of some of the lesser whisky brands such as Dewars, owned by Guinness, would quickly satisfy the authorities in the US.

In global terms the new company will have 5 per cent of the total world spirits market, including locally produced and consumed alcohols. More importantly, it will control 10 per cent of the branded spirits market with the largest number of top ten brands.

The strength of the merged group's portfolio means that the two companies have stolen a major lead on their rivals. The biggest victim is

Allied Domecq — long regarded as the weakest member of the sector. Allied needs to find strategic partners fast to prevent its market share being further eroded. But analysts believe it will only be able to do so on terms set by stronger rivals, such as Seagram or Brown-Forman Corporation, the US company that owns Jack Daniels. Neither is likely to be attracted to Allied while its share price contains a hefty bid premium.

The two companies insisted yesterday that the food brands, which include Burger King and Pillsbury, would remain a major part of the group. Mr Bull again repeated the GrandMet refrain that branded food and branded drinks offer a high degree of synergy. Some analysts believe that the group may be tempted to expand its business, possibly looking at Cadbury, which is also rumoured to be a target for cash-rich Unilever. But in the medium term the expectation is that some of the food assets, particularly Burger King, will come onto the market.

The company has also restated its commitment to Guinness Brewing although companies such as Anheuser Busch, which owns Budweiser, and Heineken would love to get their hands on the famous Irish stout. The merged company's more likely immediate strategy is to dump some past failures such as Cruzcampo, Guinness's Spanish brewing operation.

The one wild card in the merger is M. Arnault. Although LVMH is still selling down its stake in Guinness, it still owns 14.2 per cent of the company — sufficient to make trouble. M. Arnault made it clear yesterday that he will continue to oppose the merger and try to sell his alternative plan of floating off the merged spirits businesses of the three companies as the way forward.

The City believes there is an element of pique about M. Arnault's behaviour. LVMH sold its shares earlier this year at 414p compared with Guinness' closing price yesterday of 602.5p. He was also barely consulted and has been forced off the new board. Most analysts believe there is little that LVMH will be able to do beyond selling its watered down 6.7 per cent stake in the new company. But M. Arnault is hinting darkly that with the merger scheduled to take a year to complete there is still plenty of time to find an interested party who might be prepared to listen to LVMH.

No thanks in higher taxes

Don't tax me, tax the man behind the tree." This little ditty, which serves as a sort of Mission Statement for the lobbyists' fraternity on Capitol Hill in Washington, will soon become a favourite in the restaurants of Westminster and Mayfair as Britain's business community prepares to face the first Labour Budget since 1979.

Never before has a newly elected left-wing Government been greeted by a chorus of business leaders begging to pay more tax. Within days of the election, the CBI, the British Chambers of Commerce and the Institute of Directors had all issued passionate declarations of national interest imploring Gordon Brown to raise taxes. Not satisfied with these generalised institutional voices, the chairmen of British Steel, ICI and a host of other major companies have added their personal pleas. "Our companies are in deep trouble," they have said to the new Chancellor. "Only you can save us. Help us, we beg you, by letting us pay more tax."

I have exaggerated slightly. None of the above gentlemen has actually asked the to increase his own taxes or given any idea of whose taxes should rise. This suggests that the strange post-election consensus in favour of higher taxes will break up rather quickly with the approach of a real Labour Budget with real money at stake. It seems worth pondering, therefore, whether the huge tax increases now being discussed in financial markets are likely to be as dramatic as investors seem to expect.

There are four possible reasons why the Chancellor may want to raise taxes. He may want more money for public spending. This would be popular, but Mr Brown has already ruled it out. Secondly, he may want to raise certain taxes in order to cut others, for example to increase incentives for work or long-term investment. This sort of action is likely to bear out Mr Brown's hints about a very radical Budget. But reducing money from one tax to another does nothing for the overall stance of fiscal policy, which

Deal may rectify negative image

Tony Greener's dour and offhand manner has not endeared him to the City since he took over as chairman of Guinness in 1992. "Arrogant" and "unapproachable" are some of the less-than-flattering terms flung at Mr Greener, 56, over the past four years.

It was Mr Greener's misfortune to take control just as the recession began to bite. But the City believes that he has hardly helped his cause by being overly reluctant to listen to his critics — not least Bernard Arnault — when results failed to support his belief that Guinness was on the verge of recovery.

After Marlborough College, he joined his family's cotton business. Mr Greener then served a couple of years on the factory floor at a Unilever paper factory before moving into management. But it was his successful term at Dunhill that first established his reputation. He helped to turn a £15 million tobacco company into a £350 million luxury goods



Greener: 'dour and offhand'

business before he moved to Ernest Saunders' over-zealous pursuit of Distillers.

Mr Greener once competed in the Sydney Hobart yacht race but, as work has become dominant, he has had to confine his leisure pursuits to skiing. His role in sealing the GrandMet deal suggests that he has not been as conservative in his thinking as the City believed.

Management style earns respect

In contrast to Tony Greener, George Bull is regarded as affable and open, which may explain the superior City rating GrandMet has commanded since he became chairman last year. The City is also keen on contrasting his consensual management style with the rough regime of his predecessor, Lord Sheppard of Didgeon.

Mr Bull went to Ampleforth, the Catholic public school in Yorkshire, before spending a few years in the Coldstream Guards. Colleagues say he sometimes still addresses meetings as if he were in military mode, and there is a legendary tale of Mr Bull donning a Second World War helmet to rally his troops during a particular crisis at IVD in the 1970s.

After a spell in advertising and marketing school, Mr Bull began his career as an export salesman at one of the forerunner companies of International Distillers and Vintners, working his way up through the GrandMet organ-



Bull: 'affable and open'

isation before a short spell in charge of food. He won Lord Sheppard's backing to become chief executive, and finally chairman, seeing off a number of rivals in GrandMet's bloody succession battle. He is one of the first chief executives to be completely computer-literate and is rarely without his portable on business trips. Mr Bull will continue as joint chairman until he retires next year.

French predator wary of spotlight

Bernard Arnault has been the joker in the pack at Guinness since taking a cross-shareholding in the company. The relationship between M. Arnault and the Guinness board has soured in recent years and he was widely credited with leaking the Lazard takeover document last year to put further pressure on the company to follow his demerger plans. He has since reduced LVMH's shareholding to 14.2 per cent.

M. Arnault has bemused and intrigued analysts in London and Paris since he emerged on the French business scene in the 1980s. His ruthless management style and use of complex "cascade" financing that limits his direct investment in takeover targets has upset the French. Yves St Laurent described M. Arnault as a "bird of prey", intent on devouring famous-name companies.

He dislikes the celebrity lifestyle and has often been accused of being unfashionable.

He dislikes the celebrity lifestyle and has often been accused of being unfashionable.



Arnault: 'Joker in the pack'

able. Investors have been unhappy with his lack of openness, especially when LVMH struggled in recent years. But M. Arnault has normally managed to sidestep his critics' most recently winning plaudits for a \$2.6 billion takeover of DFS, the US duty-free company. He is unlikely to take the merger passively but with his shareholding diluted there is probably little he can do but sell out.

LOSING SLEEP?

foreclosure n. 1 shut down golf course (after errant ball on head) 2 one better than a fiveclosure 3 take possession of a property because an owner cannot repay money.

liquidate v. 1 a blind date, usually with a member of the Campaign For Real Ale 2 wind up the affairs (of a company) by ascertaining liabilities and apportioning assets.

tax n. 1 item commonly used for securing carpet to floor 2 round disk as dispensed to motorists (ref. Swanson) 3 fiscal obligation to State executed under very complex laws.

summons n. 1 belonging to somebody (summons hot; summons car; has summon lost this) 2 a call to appear before a judge or magistrate.

MARTIN WALLER



John Birt: hitching a ride to the party in Hong Kong

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National Express joins forces with Norwegian group

BY OUR CITY STAFF

NATIONAL EXPRESS, the transport group, has launched its expansion into continental Europe by naming Schøyen Group, one of Norway's biggest bus operators, as its partner.

The two companies have set up Concordia Bus, a joint venture that will be 63 per cent owned by National Express, to bid for the stream of privatised contracts that it expects to emerge this summer.

It will now be competing head-to-head with Stagecoach, its United Kingdom rival, which is also targeting the Scandinavian market through Swebus, the Swedish company which it bought last October.

Phil White, the chief executive of National Express, said that the company would not just bid for public transport contracts but would primarily become a vehicle for acquisitions of other bus

operators in Scandinavia and Germany.

He said: "The private sector is set to play an increasingly important role throughout Europe. The experience of National Express of operating in the highly competitive, deregulated United Kingdom transport sector combined with Schøyen's local expertise will make Concordia a powerful force."

He added that Concordia will be targeting leading operators which have fleets of more than 500 buses, but cautioned that the first acquisition may not happen until next year.

National Express sees Concordia as a blueprint for European expansion in other sectors such as rail transport. But Mr White said that the cost of such deals would not be inflated as more British transport operators made moves into the European market

through strategic alliances. The company already runs 80 per cent of British long-haul routes, and has taken on the largest part of Britain's privatised railway network.

Schøyen is a broad-based transport operator which provides about 40 per cent of Oslo's bus services and employs 800 staff.

The City treated the news with caution yesterday, with many analysts reserving judgment until the company proved that it could make an acquisition at the right price.

One said: "They are entering a completely different ball game here and will be in for a shock if they think that European governments are as keen as the British to sell transport at giveaway prices to strangers."

National Express shares, which have been falling from 573p over the past six weeks, eased a further 3p to 491p.



Growth-bound: Jim Flavin, chief executive of DCC

DCC confident of growth as profits rise 22%

BY MARTIN BARROW

SHARES in DCC rose to a record high yesterday after the industrial holding company, which is based in Ireland, reported a 22.2 per cent rise in pre-tax profits, to £135.2 million, and said that it was looking forward to further growth in the current year.

The company, which has interests spanning the computer, healthcare, food and energy industries, is increasing the total dividend by 16 per cent to 18p a share, by way of a 14.9p final. The shares rose 14p, to 326.5p, on the London Stock Exchange yesterday.

Group turnover increased by 17 per cent at £1627.7 million. DCC SerCom, the group's computer services division, lifted sales by 22 per cent to £202 million, while operating profit rose 36 per cent to just above £10 million, helped by a satisfactory performance at Printech Group, its manufacturing services business.

DCC Foods saw profits rise

Sales at API shrug off pound's rise

BY ADAM JONES

THE strong pound could not stop API, the specialist packaging and coatings company, from increasing interim pre-tax profits by 44 per cent, to £6.1 million (£4.2 million).

Sales in the six months to March 31 grew to £70 million (£58.2 million), boosted by the acquisition last May of the Learoyd packaging group.

Credit Lyonnais, its broker, expects API to record pre-tax profits of about £15 million for the full year. Mike Smith, chief executive of API, said that its order book is strong, and the buoyant pound, which topped £1 million off interim profit, seems to have stabilised.

Operating profit margin rose from 7.5 per cent to 8.5 per cent. The margin would have reached 10 per cent but for the £1.1 million start-up costs at its metallising business, which produces aluminium-coated labels and wrappers for products such as beer bottles and butter. Mr Smith said that the new metallising arm was expected to become profitable by September, about ten months ahead of schedule.

An interim dividend of 4.9p (4.8p) is due on July 4. But profits at DCC Energy dipped 10 per cent to £5.13 million. The increase was helped by the first full-year contribution from DMA, the Welsh manufacturer of mobility and rehabilitation products.

But profits at DCC Energy

dipped 10 per cent to £5.13 million because of pressure on margins after a steep rise in product costs. Turnover rose 17 per cent to £118 million.

Jim Flavin, the chief executive and deputy chairman of DCC, said: "Each of DCC's divisions is budgeting for growth in the current year and, the group's financial strength and cashflows will support their continued acquisition and development activity."

An interim dividend of 4.9p (4.8p) is due on July 4.

Property group agrees refinancing

LONDON & METROPOLITAN, the troubled property investment and developer group, yesterday announced the terms of a financial restructuring agreed with Bank of Scotland, its principal banker. These include a debt-for-equity swap and an increase in working capital to £12 million to enable the implementation of a debt reduction programme under which most of the existing properties and development sites will be sold. Medium-term debts of £15.4 million are being converted into a single ordinary share.

Bank of Scotland's shareholding will fall from 33.2 to 12.2 per cent. The combined shareholdings of directors and senior employees will increase from 3.9 to 16.9 per cent, while an employee share ownership trust will hold a further 13 per cent. The shares were unchanged at 4.2p.

First Leisure buoyant

FIRST LEISURE Corporation, the bowling alley to bingo halls group, that will be headed by Michael Grade from the summer, said yesterday that sales in the six months to April 30 were 7 per cent ahead of last year's corresponding figure. Each division, with the exception of bingo, achieved solid improvements in trading. Bingo sales have declined 25 per cent and the business, after absorbing pre-opening costs and administrative charges, has traded at a loss.

Diploma diversion

DIPLOMA DIVISION, the fast-growing chain of vocational institutions, more than doubled profits after tapping into the western break market. It spent £1.5 million on its pub "diploma" theme and bought 21 new outlets, lifting the total portfolio to 88. Overall, pre-tax profits jumped to £1.6 million (£500,000) for the year to March 31, lifting earnings to 1.7p a share (2.3p). A final dividend of 1.2p, due on June 30, makes 2.2p total. The shares rose 10p, to a high of 266.1p.

Farmhouse' pubs pay

FARMHOUSE' PUBLISHERS COMPANY, the fast-growing chain of traditional inns, more than doubled profits after tapping into the western break market. It spent £1.5 million on its pub "farmhouse" theme and bought 21 new outlets, lifting the total portfolio to 88. Overall, pre-tax profits jumped to £1.6 million (£500,000) for the year to March 31, lifting earnings to 1.7p a share (2.3p). A final dividend of 1.2p, due on June 30, makes 2.2p total. The shares rose 10p, to a high of 266.1p.

BBA raises £20m

BBA, the UK engineering company, continued the disposal of non-core businesses yesterday with the sale of PC Cex (Newbury) Ltd, a manufacturer of sealant applicators, to a new group, which has been formed by CVC Capital Partners, for £20 million. The price comprises £18 million in cash payable on completion and a loan note in respect of the balance. The proceeds from the sale will be used to reduce borrowings.

Rugby Estates expands

RUGBY ESTATES is spending £8.4 million extending its Covent Garden property holdings by buying a 40,000 sq ft block at the junction of Strand and Bedford Street. Rugby said the deal was its largest acquisition, producing an initial rental yield of 8 per cent but expected to rise to 10 per cent. Rugby's central London holdings are now worth £34 million.

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Express

Bull run continues

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High	Low	Change	Yield	P/E
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES				
4977 100% Distillers	100	+10	10	16
4978 100% Distillers	100	+10	10	16
4979 100% Distillers	100	+10	10	16
4980 100% Distillers	100	+10	10	16
4981 100% Distillers	100	+10	10	16
4982 100% Distillers	100	+10	10	16
4983 100% Distillers	100	+10	10	16
4984 100% Distillers	100	+10	10	16
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4988 100% Distillers	100	+10	10	16
4989 100% Distillers	100	+10	10	16
4990 100% Distillers	100	+10	10	16
4991 100% Distillers	100	+10	10	16
4992 100% Distillers	100	+10	10	16
4993 100% Distillers	100	+10	10	16
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4999 100% Distillers	100	+10	10	16
5000 100% Distillers	100	+10	10	16
5001 100% Distillers	100	+10	10	16
5002 100% Distillers	100	+10	10	16
5003 100% Distillers	100	+10	10	16
5004 100% Distillers	100	+10	10	16
5005 100% Distillers	100	+10	10	16
5006 100% Distillers	100	+10	10	16
5007 100% Distillers	100	+10	10	16
5008 100% Distillers	100	+10	10	16
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5018 100% Distillers	100	+10	10	16
5019 100% Distillers	100	+10	10	16
5020 100% Distillers	100	+10	10	16
5021 100% Distillers	100	+10	10	16
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LAW

Open letters to the new powers-that-be from a QC, Martin Bowley; a solicitor, James Burnett-Hitchcock, right; and a retired judge, bottom

Now it's time for answers

Dear Lord Chancellor

We now have a new Lord Chancellor. What sort — and size — of Bar will survive five or perhaps ten years of a Labour Government? The Bar in independent practice totals just over 9,000. At the present rate it could number 11,000 by the year 2000. But will it? The external pressures are not just political. Lord Woolf's reforms, with their emphasis on case management, written submissions, limited oral argument and court-appointed experts, should lead to shorter trials, more economic litigation and, presumably, fewer and less well-paid lawyers.

Pressures on legal aid budgets exist in all common law jurisdictions. So there is a real possibility that block legal aid contracts and legal aid franchising will be extended to the Bar. The decision of the senior judges to allow Crown prosecutors to appear in pre-trial reviews and as juniors with counsel must affect the criminal bar. And plans for standard legal aid fees in civil and family cases will have a devastating impact on numbers in those areas.

We must, therefore, all have questions for Lord Irvine. Here are just ten of mine:

● Is there a case for further

extension of rights of audience for solicitors?

● Do you believe the Bar should amend its rules to allow for direct lay access and partnerships?

● If there is to be no extra public money, how will you re-allocate existing funds to provide legal aid for tribunals?

● How soon will you establish your appointments commission, how will its members be selected, and will it cover the system for selection of QC's?

● Will you ask officials to establish and publish the cost to the public purse of running the present silk system?

● Would you consider urgently creating a system of graduated fees for civil and family legal aid work?

● What proposals have you for financing young entrants to the profession so it does not revert to its one-time 'Wasp' public school, Oxbridge profile?

● Are you satisfied with existing procedures for converting Law Commission proposals into legislation?

● Do you favour moves towards multi-disciplinary partnerships?

● What are your law reform priorities?

This country is already going down the American road and becoming more litigious. New legislation is rare-

ly bad for lawyers' incomes. More people want to train for the Bar despite the problems of obtaining pupillages and tenancies. But it seems likely that the Bar's size will contract. The Inns of Court can survive only with rent structures at the very top of the property market. What will be the effect if they can no longer let all their space?

What will be the impact on the Bar Council if its subscription base is reduced and the Inns can no longer afford the present level of subvention? At least one Inn is conducting a year-long assessment of its future role and has commissioned a series of papers from benchers with different perspectives, analysing that Inn's strengths and weaknesses, opportunities and threats. At the same time, the Bar Council has dispensed with its planning committee.

Surely any modern profession must have in place machinery for long-term strategic thinking. In July 2000 the American Bar Association will hold its annual meeting in London. Its last visit, 12 years ago, was a splendid occasion, with a re-dedication ceremony at Runnymede, sessions at the Albert and Westminster Halls, dinners and garden parties in the Inns of Court. The profession here gave every impression of being thriving,



Lord Irvine of Lairg, QC, the new Lord Chancellor

confident and expanding. In truth, it was riven with splits over rights of audience, low fee levels for legal aid and prosecution work had reduced morale at the Criminal Bar to crisis point, the Bar Council was out of touch with barristers and a reformist group was poised to sweep the

board at the annual elections. We owe it to ourselves, the public, and our future to have some idea of what the Bar will be like in 2000, and the years beyond. There are plenty of questions. But who is working on the answers?

● The author is a former Treasurer of the Bar Council.

How judges view the Home Office's role: Sir Frederick Lawton pens an open letter to Jack Straw, the new Home Secretary

Dear Home Secretary

The new Home Secretary has an urgent repair job to do. He should, as soon as he can, establish a good relationship with the judges. He and they must work together in harmony if there is to be an effective penal policy to tackle the acute crime situation. He must trust them; and they must stop regarding him as likely to interfere with their independence and discretion in sentencing. The former tradition that judges should not publicly criticise penal policy save through the Lord Chief Justice, speaking in House of Lords debates, should be observed.



Straw: He must trust the judges

We must start working together

Relations between the Supreme Court judges and the Home Office began to sour with the Criminal Justice Act 1961. By its section 3, judges lost much of their discretion in the sentencing of young offenders aged 15 to 21. Unless minded to pass a custodial sentence of less than six months or of three or more years, they had to impose Borstal training, in practice a loss of liberty of between six and nine months. Within days of this provision taking effect, injustices began to appear. The judges protested at this restriction on their sentencing powers. One Home Secretary after another ignored their protests. Injustices continued until Borstal training was abolished in 1982.

Since then, new forms of interference with judicial discretion over sentencing have been introduced — the most controversial being the Crime (Sentences) Act 1997, which brought in mandatory sentences for some offenders. In the Bill's original form, Michael Howard, QC, the then Home Secretary, seemed to be relieving the judges of their constitutional duty to do justice in mercy, which rests upon them as the Queen's delegates.

Home Secretaries should accept that judges know more about sentencing than do they and their advisers. Judges will know what the offender before them did and the circumstances of the offence. Those who appear in court form part of a penal spectrum. At one end they may be wicked villains for whom the harshest punishment is appropriate; at the other, mentally disturbed or of low intelligence, needing treatment or help. Putting offenders into statutory categories makes the

doing of justice unnecessarily difficult. Home Secretaries can learn much from mistakes made in the past. In the second half of the 18th century, Parliament, no doubt encouraged by the Home Secretaries of the time, thought mandatory capital sentences deterred offenders. They did not. In the 1820s there was established the parliamentary convention that penal statutes should enact the appropriate sentence for the most grave form of the offence, leaving judges to decide on the facts of the cases before them what the sentences should be. The recent statute providing for mandatory sentences is a clear breach of this convention. The new Home Secretary should observe it.

Many members of the public, who have no detailed knowledge of the problems which judges and magistrates have to solve, believe criminals can be deterred by harsh sentences. They seldom are. Severity was tried with the Prisons Act 1865, which brought in hard labour in the form of stone-breaking in the quarries on Dartmoor and at Portland. By the end of the century the public came to appreciate that these punishments were unacceptable in a modern democracy. They were abolished by the Prisons Act 1890.

During this century Home Secretaries seem to have been convinced that imprisoning persistent offenders for years served the public interest. The new Home Secretary has made statements showing that he shares this opinion. He should consider the results of the penal policies on persistent offenders which his predecessors introduced. The Prevention of Crimes Act 1908 created the offence of

being an habitual criminal, attracting a sentence of not less than five years or more than 14 following any previous sentence of five years or more.

This Act made no contribution to crime prevention because juries refused to convict. In 1956, 1,384 offenders could have been sentenced preventively but only 178 were. In 1961 this kind of sentence was abolished.

One of the reasons why penal policy has

failed in some aspects since 1986 is that Home Secretaries have not consulted judges, magistrates and lawyers beforehand. There is a way of doing so, through the Criminal Law Revision Committee set up by Rab Butler in 1959 to advise the Government on changes in the criminal law. Its membership embraced judges of all ranks, magistrates, and lawyers both practising and academic.

It met monthly until the autumn of

1986. It has never met since. It produced 18 reports. The Home Office accepted all its specific recommendations.

The provisions in the Criminal Law Act 1991, dropped after six months, would never have been included had the committee been consulted beforehand. The same is true of the controversial provision in the Crime (Sentences) Bill (now Act) which removed nearly all judicial discretion for specified offences.

Perhaps the committee should be reconstituted.

● Sir Frederick Lawton, a retired Lord Justice of Appeal, chaired the Criminal Law Revision Committee from 1977 to 1986.

Directory inquiries

THE opinion polls may have been right about the election result, but can they say who publishes the best legal directory? A battle royal is raging between Legalease, publishers of *The Legal 500*, and Chambers & Partners Publishing, which produces its own directory of the UK legal profession. To quote a recent letter by Michael Chambers to several law firms: "Our direct competitor, *The Legal 500*, have been writing to the profession asserting that their directory is the market leader. They refer to a Gallup Poll conducted three years ago... Naturally, we doubt this assertion."

He goes on to claim that the results of a poll by NOP, commissioned by Chambers &

Partners, shows (surprise, surprise) that the "clear market leader among directories is the Chambers Directory". Unfortunately there will be no election to resolve this debate, so it may run and run.

Screen test

JUDGE: Butler, QC, whose colourful judicial career ended last week when he retired as number one judge at Southwark Crown Court, will not be out of the public eye for long. Next month he presides in a BBC2 television programme, *Trial by Jury*, a staged murder trial using real lawyers, members of the public as the jury, and actors as defendants and witnesses.

● Does anyone want to buy a

secondhand legal publishing empire? Since the departure of Steve Brill, famous in America as the founder of American Lawyer magazine and Court TV, Time Warner has put the mug up for sale. It is seeking a buyer for the whole American Lawyer division, which includes another ten magazines and a related on-line service Court TV, however, is not included.

All welcome

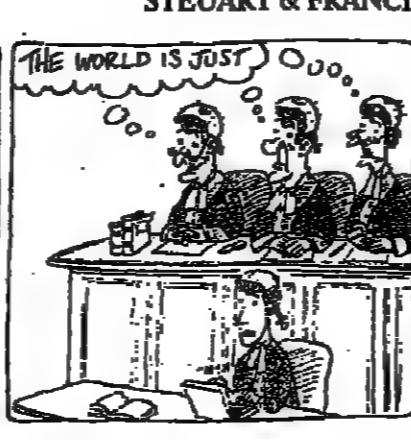
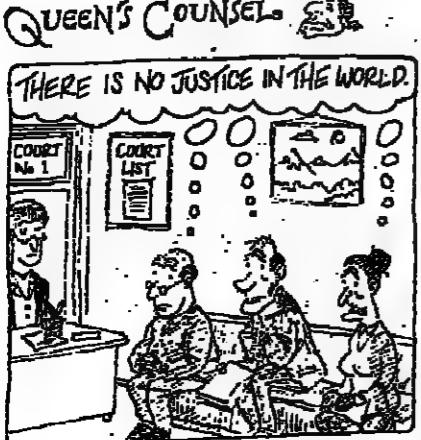
THE Lord Chancellor plays a key role in the state opening of Parliament tomorrow, presenting the Queen with her speech and then having to negotiate the steps down from the throne backwards — without, of course, falling over. Then, tradition has it that he

hosts a reception at his official residence overlooking the Thames. Until now, this has always been restricted to the topmost judges: law lords, the Lord Chief Justice and so on, who rub shoulders with former prime ministers and other government peers. But this year, Lord Irvine is said to be breaking with tradition by including those at the coalface of the law. He is rumoured to be inviting circuit judges, district judges and magistrates.

● Two leading media law firms have announced they are joining forces: Crokers and Oswald Hickson Collier. The new firm, to practise as Crokers, Oswald Hickson, brings together a number of defamation heavyweights including Rupert Grey, Paul Davies and Richard Shillito. The new firm is on the lookout to expand its intellectual property team.

STEUART & FRANCIS

Queen's Counsel



22% of firms in the group had £12 billion under management.

ber 31. The shares closed at

75p to 75p.

The Woolf is at your door

Dear Lord Chancellor

Congratulations on your

appointment and good

luck — you will need it.

Your party is after a Nobel

Prize for law and order. It ex-

pects the legal aid budget to

shrink by magic while the

consumer lobby clamours to

assert its rights in the courts

and expects cost and delay to

vanish overnight.

So, what to do about Lord

Woolf's "Access to Justice"

reforms? Should you press

ahead — and with all or part

of them? After the obvious

questions are a red herring.

Implementation is a red herring.



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The firm would also be interested in talking to financial services lawyers at other levels with a view to them joining this new department.



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Consultancy Work

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As the economy moves into a higher gear, the variety of opportunities for lawyers increases. We have recently registered an influx of legal vacancies with consultancy organisations where the main skills the employer looks for are commercial skills and a general ability to sell. Some of these positions are with firms of accountants or their consultancy arms, others with a range of smaller consultancies where the lawyer would join at a senior level. Depth of experience is usually less important than an ability to handle clients effectively. Specific legal skills vary from tax to employment or intellectual property law.

Salaries are usually high, and a commission element often takes them well over the market as average. Newly qualified will start at around £30,000 a year. These positions appeal to lawyers who derive more pleasure from creative deal-making and interacting with clients than they do from black letter law.

Michael Chambers

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Opportunity for sol: 2-4 years' pqe to join international conglomerate. Role will involve both corp and treasury work although excess of capital markets is not required.

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SOUTH: Helen Mills, Noel Murray NORTH: Sudi Bahra, Paul Thomas

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We have been assisting partners seeking a career move for over 20 years now and are regularly placing several partners each month.

Company/Commercial: Hong Kong
Leading offshore practice seeks solicitor with at least 2 years' pqe and previous experience working in Hong Kong for broad range of corporate and commercial work.

Negligence/Fraud Partner: WC1
Long established medium-size firm seeks professional negligence partner with part following to handle a high quality caseload on behalf of building society clients.

Company/Commercial: City
Major US practice offers 3-4 year qual solr broad cross-frontier transactional work and general commercial work including employment and IT. To £60,000.

Commercial Litigation: City

Major City firm seeks commercial litigation assistant with 6-18 months' experience and outstanding academics to join their international litigation team.

Banking: West End
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Energy Litigation: City
Leading energy litigation in large City firm seeks a 2-4 year qualified litigation/arbitration assistant to join a lively and informal team offering superb quality work.

Commercial Litigation: WC1
High profile media firm seeks 1-3 year qualified assistant with broad trial experience and good client skills to handle a wide range of commercial litigation.

Company/Commercial: London/Surrey
Commercial solicitor c. 2 years' pqe sought by first rate practice. Opportunity to work in both offices acting for national/international clients.

Corporate Finance: Leeds
1-4 year qualified solicitor sought to handle a range of quality corporate work for major clients. Above market rate salary will be offered.

Corporate Finance: Leeds

1-4 year qualified solicitor sought to handle a range of quality corporate work for major clients. Above market rate salary will be offered.

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The degree of exposure to the sharp-end of commercial life and the achievement of the Company's commercial objectives is unusual.

You should have a minimum two years commercial post-qualification experience gained in practice or in-house. As contentious planning, licensing and employment matters are to be handled 'in house', experience in one or more of these fields will be a strong advantage.

Our clients, however, expect to invest in the successful candidate's further development in the role which will also, through liaison with external lawyers, have a significant property and general commercial element.

Confidence and commercial awareness will be required in handling a varied caseload and in advising all levels of management within the organisation. Success will depend on your determination and drive, and your ability to take the initiative.

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JUSTICES' CHIEF EXECUTIVE
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Kent Magistrates' Courts Committee is seeking to appoint an experienced manager to lead the Kent Magistrates' Courts Service, currently consisting of 14 courts, approximately 800 magistrates and 250 staff, into the 21st century.

The Committee will welcome applications from suitably experienced managers who must be Barristers/Solicitors of at least five years standing. The position of Justices' Chief Executive is a key one, being the chief officer and head of the paid service in Kent. The successful candidate will act as Clerk to the Committee and will be responsible for advising the Committee on the planning and provision of an effective magistrates' court service in Kent and for the implementation of the Committee's plans. The Justices' Chief Executive will also be appointed joint justices' clerk for the county in regard to accounting, fixed penalties and other administrative purposes.

A minimum salary of £60,000 will be payable, together with normal senior management benefits. There is the option to join an attractive pension scheme. The post is based in Ashford.

An application form and further information may be obtained by telephoning Mrs A P Alvey of the Committee Secretaries on Ashford (01233) 653102. Alternatively, interested persons may discuss the position informally with Mr S C Denham (the existing Justices' Chief Executive) by telephoning 01233-653104.

The closing date for applications is 6 June, 1997.

Kent Magistrates' Courts Committee
The Courthouse
Tuton Street
Ashford
TN23 1QS

We welcome applications from all sectors of the community irrespective of race, gender, ethnic origin or disability.

THE MEMBERS OF PLOWDEN BUILDINGS

The Members of Chambers wish to place on record their thanks to Bruce McIntyre following his 18 years of service as Head of Chambers. He has been succeeded by William Lowe of Chambers who has recently taken Sill.

Chambers are also pleased to announce the appointment of Anthony Long as Practice Manager to Chambers.

The Members of Chambers are as follows:

William Lowe QC
Bruce McIntyre
Charlotte Buckhaven
Elizabeth Hindmarsh
David Trotter
Richard Craven
Ian West
Jonathan Holmes
Catherine Foster
Simon Dyer
Camilla Quigley
David Brook
Peter Morton
Kerry Cox
Graeme Easton
Clare Lindsay
Cyrus Larizadeh
Peter Freeman
Susan Gore
Frances Zammit
Alistair Speirs
Janice Clarke

Clerk to Chambers - Paul Hurst
Practice Manager - Anthony Long
Plowden Buildings
Temple, London EC4Y 9BU
Tel: 0171 583 0808 Fax: 0171 583 5106
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Up to £27,714 pa

Nottingham Law School has established a pre-eminent reputation for its Legal Practice Course which is rated excellent by the Law Society. We also run an innovative range of practice Masters programmes with an established reputation in the profession.

We are currently looking for practitioners to join our Legal Practice Course team. You will also be expected to teach a range of professional skills and to contribute to other programmes within the Department. There may be a requirement to carry out enhanced teaching. Previous teaching experience is not essential, but you are likely to be willing to learn and to develop teaching techniques as part of a highly successful team.

Business Law

We are looking to appoint one additional member to this team. You will be expected to have substantial experience of corporate and commercial work, experience of working with public companies and of working in the corporate finance field. It would be an advantage.

Ref No L0012/TIL

Litigation

We intend to appoint a minimum of two additional members to this team, to support the litigation programme. You should have practice experience at least one of the following areas: criminal, commercial, litigation, employment, personal injury.

Ref No L0018/TIL

For further inquiries please contact Professor Philip Knott on (0115) 948675.

Further details and application forms are available from Personnel Services, Nottingham Trent University, Burton Street, Nottingham NG1 4BU, by telephoning (0115) 946522 (24 hour answering service).

Please quote appropriate Post Ref No. Closing date: 30 May 1997.

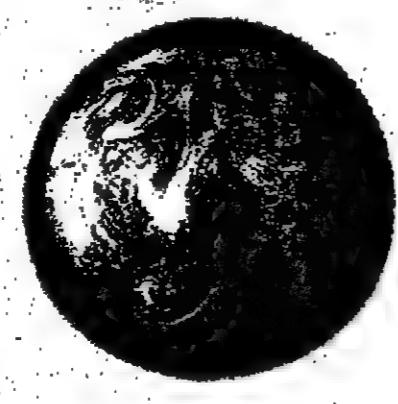
For all vacancies see our Internet page <http://www.ntu.ac.uk/personnel>.

CVs will only be accepted when submitted with a fully completed application form.

We are actively implementing equality of opportunity policies and seek people who share our commitment.



COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE IN LEARNING

Business
Development
CounselBRITISH AMERICAN
TOBACCO

BRITISH AMERICAN TOBACCO, part of BAT Industries plc, is the world's most international cigarette marketeer, having more than 12% of global sales and a turnover of around £15 billion. Offering a brand for every taste and preference, we operate in over 80 countries and on every continent.

The Business Development function is responsible for British American Tobacco's expansion by way of acquisition and joint venture both in emerging and established markets throughout the world. Within the function there is a small team of experienced and well qualified lawyers.

This is an exciting opportunity for an accomplished corporate lawyer, between four and eight years' qualified, with strong mergers and acquisitions experience either in a top practice or in industry, to join our team. Each lawyer within the team assigned to a particular project has a high profile in its planning and execution. He or she can expect to be involved in complex negotiations with senior government officials and senior executives of corporations in the relevant target country and will be working with other internal departments as well as outside legal advisers, accountants and merchant banks. The projects are numerous and the size of each is in the tens of millions or more.

The successful applicant will have a sharp commercial awareness and the credibility, confidence and diplomacy to succeed in a fiercely competitive environment.

The position comes with a highly competitive salary and benefits package. The job will be based in central London and there is a significant amount of overseas travel. We place considerable importance on career development and the legal members of the Business Development team are given real opportunity to work in other parts of the group. Please write with your full CV to Dawn Swarbrick, Recruitment Manager, British American Tobacco, Millbank, Knowle Green, Staines, Middlesex TW18 1DY.

Building a strong, business-focused commercial team

You need the opportunity to operate proactively in a fast-moving, dynamic business where your commercial expertise will have a real impact. You demand a level of involvement, variety and international exposure far beyond the reach of most organisations. For you, the opportunity for extensive personal and career development is vital.

Commercial Management in ICL is high-profile. It offers high-calibre, ambitious commercial professionals a level of challenge and opportunity second to none - no idle promise we guarantee.

We are one of Europe's leading IT systems and service companies. Working at the forefront of technology in highly competitive marketplaces on projects which frequently span international boundaries, and continuously generate new commercial opportunities. The measure of your contribution and success as a Commercial Manager, will be your ability to positively influence the commercial decision-making process.

At an operational level this will mean using

Commercial
Management

Thames Valley and Dublin



Closing date: Friday 23rd May 1997.

Global Law Firm

PROJECT / INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCE

London UK Qualified To £100,000

A well known international firm, with an established infrastructure/project finance and privatisation practice in North and South America and the Far East, wishes to expand its operations. Long established in the UK, the firm's objectives will result in a doubling in size of its London office over the short to medium term.

A UK qualified lawyer with 5-7 years' experience of international project/corporate finance work (or a strong corporate/banking background with an interest in specialising in this area) is sought to participate in the next crucial phase of growth. You will be rewarded richly in both financial terms and the opportunity to develop your practice. The right candidate will have excellent partnership prospects.

Seeking autonomy with extensive support? Excellent clients, and colleagues throughout the world who are happy to send them your way? A collegiate environment not often available in a firm of this calibre?

The consideration of your future could mean the consideration of ours.



For further information, in complete confidence, please contact Deborah Daigle or Sarah David on 0171-405 6062 (0181-520 6559 or 0181-789 7704 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Quarry Dougall Recruitment, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JL. Confidential fax 0171-831 6394.

PHARMACEUTICALS

Successful Pharmaceutical firm is offering a broad based role-advising across a wide range of the company's activities. Experience of US corporate compliance work and M & A required. Competitive salary and package on offer. Ref: 3281. Contact: Richard Gawn.

ENERGY PROJECTS

BIRMINGHAM Are you committed to handling top quality projects work for an international client-base but convinced you have to stay in London? You do not need to compromise your deservedly large salary because this Birmingham firm, which enjoys a reputation envied by many City practices, will offer a competitive salary to rival others. To join the energy group, 1 years' pge. Ref: 3880. Contact: Cleo Birns.

BANKING/COMMERCIAL

OMAN International practice with a significant presence in the Middle East offers a complete change of environment for senior lawyers of 5 years' pge to specialise in banking and commercial work on a truly international scale. Located in the firm's Oman office, you will compliment a professional and highly motivated team and enjoy a quality of life sans pareil. Ref: 3935. Contact: Cleo Birns.

MULTIMEDIA/PUBLISHING

3-5 YEARS' PQE Young and dynamic team which has become a major player in the media & communications field, is looking to take on another young but experienced assistant to continue their expansion. Your experience should include commercial/IT work; you should be entrepreneurial and enjoy the marketing process. Clients include high-profile TV and film production Co's, large publishing houses, and international multimedia Co's. Partnership prospects are very real and package is superb. Ref: 2946. Contact: Cleo Birns.

TELECOMS/REGULATORY AFFAIRS

We have a number of roles for regulatory affairs managers with various companies in the telecoms industry. Our instructions include positions in Germany and Spain, Central London and the Home Counties. Previous regulatory experience is a must. Ref: 3661. Contact: Richard Gawn.

PRIVATE CLIENT

1-6 YEARS' PQE Superb opportunity to join one of the leaders in this area to give specialist advice on the full gamut of top quality private client work including UK and international tax planning, trust formation, offshore trusts and wills, probate and succession planning. As the department in this friendly top City firm is going from strength to strength prospects are brilliant. Ref: 1883. Contact: Pandora Close.

DERIVATIVES

ALL LEVELS A North American investment house seeks a junior lawyer (1-4 pge) with derivatives experience to join a small close-knit team. Ref: 3910. A European Bank requires a confident specialist (5-8 pge) with in-house experience for a supervisory role. Ref: 3817. A US open market specialist Credit Derivatives experience (3-5 pge). Ref: 3677. Contact: Paul Remondes.

PERSONAL INJURY SPECIALISTS

2-5 YEARS' PQE This prestigious Central London practice requires two plaintiff personal injury lawyers. Reporting directly to the Head of Department the senior lawyer will have responsibility for case management, client care and the supervision of four staff. In addition, you will inherit an existing caseload currently producing a substantial fee-income. The firm has attracted excellent staff to date and wishes to maintain this emphasis on quality. Ref: 1220. Contact: Peter Gorden.

Hughes-Castell

International Legal Recruitment Consultants
London Office: 87 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1BD. Tel: 0171 242 0303. Fax: 0171 242 7111
Hong Kong Office: 102 East Town Building, 41 Lockhart Road, Hong Kong. Tel: 2520 1168. Fax: 2865 0925

BRISTOWS COOKE & CARPMAEL

1-5 yrs pge

The Firm
Bristows Cooke & Carpmael, a specialist commercial firm, is expanding its successful corporate practice to complement its pre-eminent reputation in the field of intellectual property law. The firm's philosophy is to remain at the forefront of this specialist area of practice by recruiting lawyers of the highest calibre who are committed to creative problem solving and technical excellence.

The firm has the advantage of being medium sized with a blue-chip client base. It enjoys an international reputation and has particularly strong connections with the USA, Europe and Japan.

The Workload

The company department advises a diverse client base of substantial plc's, private companies and entrepreneurs across a broad range of primarily technology based industry sectors, such as the information technology/multimedia and biotechnology sectors. All aspects of corporate work are handled, including mergers and acquisitions, re-organisations, joint ventures, Stock Exchange and venture capital work. The department works in close collaboration with the firm's commercial IP group.

The People

The department is looking to recruit up to four corporate lawyers with between 1 and 5 years' pge, ideally gained in a leading City firm.

This is an ideal opportunity for ambitious corporate lawyers who wish to maximise their potential. You will gain excellent experience and will be given all the support necessary to develop your career in time with the culture and ethos of the firm.

For further information in complete confidence, please contact Nicky Russell on 0171 269 2241 or write to her at Michael Page Legal, Page House, 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 5LH, fax 0171 831 6662.

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Michael Page Legal
Specialists in Legal Recruitment

Corporate Lawyers

£ Market Rate

LONDON & HONG KONG

CORPORATE

TO £70,000
Manfully successful, highly profitable City practice enjoys a well deserved reputation for the excellence of its Corporate Department and now seeks further ambitious and able 1-5 year qualified lawyers. Varied client base ranges from entrepreneurs to listed clients and financial institutions. High level of client contact is encouraged. The firm has a reputation for fast tracking candidates of partnership calibre. (Ref: 4118)

ENERGY PROJECTS

£42,750,000
This successful and profitable London firm has made a virtue of concentrating on and expanding niche areas. Its high profile energy practice continues to grow and is now looking to recruit further oil, gas and projects lawyers, ideally between 2 and 7 years' qualified, either from private practice or industry, who can offer both commercial and technical legal skills. (Ref: 3042)

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

TO £55,000
The IPR practice of this successful and growing City firm is an unenclosed success story. It continues to play a key role in a wide range of rights, both contentious and non-contentious, involving high profile clients on the full range of franchising, trade marks, patents and other diverse IP and IT issues. The department is now looking for talented lawyers with up to 5 years' pge. (Ref: 3547)

HONG KONG FINANCE

0-3 PQE
Our Client, a top 5 City firm, is seeking junior finance lawyers for specialist loans, structured and project finance work in numerous exciting developments in Hong Kong, mainland China, Taiwan and Asia. Although banking experience is not essential, candidates should have Chinese and/or Mandarin language skills, and an ability to work in both English and Chinese. (Ref: 3515)

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

NQ
This well-managed medium sized City firm efficiently combined high profile merger with low turnover of staff. The Commercial Property Department is particularly advanced and work levels remain unmet. As a result, there is a need to recruit at least one newly qualified property lawyers to undertake a range of portfolio management work, development and corporate support. (Ref: 2496)

HONG KONG SHIPPING

ALL LEVELS
Our Client, a highly progressive London practice is growing, developing and diversifying. With expertise in both contentious and non-contentious areas, the team has been involved in some very high profile matters and the steady flow of new instructions has created the need for a selected 2-3 year qualified solicitor. You will combine considerable enthusiasm for this type of work and natural client skills. (Ref: 3033)

INTERNATIONAL FUNDS

£70,000
International funds work has been identified by this major City practice as an area for investment and growth. With a strong domestic funds and regulatory practice and an international network in most of the main financial centres, our Client is well positioned to exploit its contacts with fund managers and institutions. In this sector a senior associate who will merit rapid elevation to partnership or a junior partner in the field is sought. (Ref: 3042)

HONG KONG CONSTRUCTION

3-5 PQE
The expansive City firm has offices throughout South East Asia, where its project practice continues to benefit from the buoyant Asian market. As a result, there are still opportunities for young lawyers to make their mark, particularly in the field of non-contentious construction. Chinese language skills are not necessary. (Ref: 3044)

EMPLOYMENT

TO £42,000
Employment team at highly progressive London practice is growing, developing and diversifying. With expertise in both contentious and non-contentious areas, the team has been involved in some very high profile matters and the steady flow of new instructions has created the need for a selected 2-3 year qualified solicitor. You will combine considerable enthusiasm for this type of work and natural client skills. (Ref: 3033)

NEWLY QUALIFIED

Banking
This profitable and dynamic Top 10 firm continues to enjoy a flow of instructions into its Banking Department. As a result, there is a need for at least two newly qualified solicitors to join this lively group. The work will be a genuine mix, including high quality work for both lenders and borrowers, and promises excellent long term prospects. (Ref: 3726)

HONG KONG SHIPPING

ALL LEVELS
Our Client, a highly progressive London practice is growing, developing and diversifying. With expertise in both contentious and non-contentious areas, the team has been involved in some very high profile matters and the steady flow of new instructions has created the need for a selected 2-3 year qualified solicitor. You will combine considerable enthusiasm for this type of work and natural client skills. (Ref: 3033)

ZMB

CHAMBERS

BANKING & FINANCE 23 LONG LANE LONDON EC1A 9HL TEL: 0171-606 8844 (FAX: 0171-606 1793)

BANKING & FINANCE

Global Investment House Excellent: City

European Investment House c.260,000 + bonus: City

This pre-eminent financial institution is global leader in investment banking and securities. To achieve its aim of being one of the world's principal providers of financial services its focus is on three core business areas: corporate/institutional finance, trading and sales risk management, investment advisory and institutional investment management.

Deregulation in Central and Eastern Europe has opened up new business opportunities. Consequently, the highly respected and well-organised legal department wishes to appoint an ambitious, commercial lawyer dedicated to this burgeoning area. Previous experience of emerging markets and some derivative exposure is advantageous, however a genuine enthusiasm and a desire to undertake a hybrid front office role is essential. Personality and a flair for commercial decision making are of prime importance. Both remuneration and prospects for progression are excellent and there is ample opportunity for foreign travel.

Chambers Banking & Finance recruit lawyers into banks and other financial institutions. For further information or for career advice, please ring Deborah Kirkinen or Stuart Morton on 0171-606 8844. Confidentially is assured.

HEAD OF GROUP LEGAL

North West

This UK plc is one of the world's leading suppliers of high technology automotive components, engineered products and industrial materials. Its annual sales of £2 billion are strategically focused on the transportation, marine, petrochemical and power generation markets. The Group has over 30,000 employees world-wide, with more than 200 locations in 24 countries.

Reporting to a Board member, a rare and outstanding opportunity has arisen for a senior company commercial lawyer, 10-15 years pge, to head up the group's UK legal function which involves responsibility for seven lawyers and a total staff of fifteen.

The successful applicant will be responsible for the provision of legal services to the Plc and all the Group's UK subsidiaries as well as being involved in major transactions concerning the Group's overseas companies. Experience of company commercial law and in particular M&A, disposals, joint ventures, licensing arrangements, contract, commercial issues, property and litigation is essential. Experience of international and cross-border transactions would be an advantage.

Applicants will possess a strong commercial awareness, well-honed management skills and the ability to communicate the relevant issues effectively to see their work to a successful conclusion.

The company offers a highly competitive salary and comprehensive benefits package reflecting the importance attached to this senior position.

For further information, please call or write to Peter Manners at:

PETER MANNERS partnership

International House 64 Bridge Street, Manchester M3 3BN

Tel: 0161 832 0162 Fax: 0161 838 4382

Applicants should be dealt with in the strictest of confidence.

QUALITY!

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION ASSISTANTS

Our client is a central London firm, whose commitment to providing Quality of Service has secured an impressive array of national and international clients.

Highly regarded, its substantial Litigation Department boasts a breadth of expertise ranging from international commodities litigation and arbitration to banking, intellectual property, media, employment, property, insolvency and company - in short, the full range of commercial litigation.

Continued expansion has led to the creation of two new positions for high calibre, ambitious and motivated assistants seeking a high degree of personal responsibility:

6 - 18 months' general Commercial Litigation PQE, and

3 - 4 years' general Commercial Litigation PQE.

These positions guarantee an excellent range and quality of work while the firm, committed to Investors in People, offers a sociable and cohesive working environment. Long term prospects are excellent in this medium-sized practice of predominantly home-grown partners.

For further information on these positions please contact, in confidence, Simon Janion on 0171 404 6669 (pawneekend 0181 674 3971). Alternatively write to me, enclosing your CV, at Eagan Janion Recruitment Ltd, 44/45 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1UB (0171 404 8817).

EAGAN JANION

WITHERS SOLICITORS

Withers is a City law firm with an enviable reputation for agriculture and property. As our expansion continues, we are committed to providing a full service for both corporate and individual clients.

PROPERTY LAWYER

3-5 ppc

We now seek a lawyer with a commercial approach, developed in commercial or residential property to play a key role in the further expansion of our residential property service. With early responsibility and excellent prospects for advancement, the successful candidate will advise both UK and non-UK buyers of high value properties. You will be expected to take a leading role in the supervision and management of residential investments, as well as assisting with tax related transactions.

AGRICULTURAL PROPERTY LAWYER

0-3 ppc

We wish to recruit a lawyer to specialise in agricultural work, ideally with some experience in this area. You will advise clients on all aspects of their business including the environment, planning, forestry and mineral exploitation, as well as other issues arising from the ownership and management of agricultural land.

Join us now to become part of a friendly and progressive law firm. Both opportunities will offer top remuneration packages.



For further information, in complete confidence, please contact Sarah David or Stephen Rodney on 0171-405 6062 (0181-789 7704 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Quarry Dougall Recruitment, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax 0171-831 6394. This assignment is being handled on an exclusive basis. All direct and indirect applications will be referred to Quarry Dougall Recruitment.

ENTERTAINMENT LAWYER

City

Our clients are a major City practice with an innovative and quality driven approach to the practice of law. Through its London base and its world-wide network of international offices and connections, it has developed a leading media and communications practice. Further expansion in this area has created a new opportunity for a lawyer with experience in the music industry. Ideally qualified as a US Attorney, you will have had an extensive grounding in all aspects of US legal practice in this particular sector.

A proven track record in business development, and the drive and ambition to enhance an already mature department will be rewarded by a highly competitive remuneration package together with a uniquely supportive and friendly environment.

For further information, please contact Stuart Robinson, in confidence, at Reynell, on 0171 353 7007 (eves: 0171 226 0696) or write to him at 55 Fetter Lane, London EC4A 1AA. Fax: 0171 353 7008.



Reynell Legal Recruitment is a member of the world-wide Austin Knight Group with offices in the UK, France, Holland, Canada, USA and Australia.

WHERE IN THE WORLD WILL YOU GET AN OPPORTUNITY LIKE THIS? THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

Our client is an experienced attorney who has practised on Grand Cayman and is currently establishing a new law firm on the island from an existing blue-chip client base.

The initial focus of this exciting venture will be on corporate/commercial law, company formation, mutual funds, unit trusts, international finance, bond issues and aircraft financing. Planned expansion will considerably broaden the range of operations. The vital factor behind such expansion will be the recruitment of two highly experienced lawyers.

Ideally UK-qualified, you will be currently at senior associate or partner level and skilled

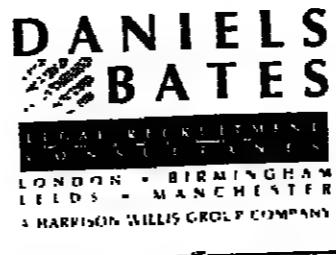
across the spectrum of corporate/commercial law. It's anticipated that you will be able to bring significant marketing and business acumen to the firm. By doing so, you will demonstrate the level of ambition and long-term commitment our client seeks.

The successful candidates can expect partnership in the short term or immediately, which will encompass a basic salary, a high level bonus based on income generated and the potential for further profit share.

Further details about this exciting venture (and location) will be forthcoming if you contact Anil Shah

or Maria Shahid at Daniels Bates on 0171 404 4646. Or write to them at Daniels Bates Legal, 17 Red Lion Square, London WC1R 4QH. This assignment is being handled exclusively by Daniels Bates.

All enquiries will be dealt with in complete confidence.



THE TIMES TUESDAY MAY 13 1997

THE TIMES TUESDAY MAY 13 1997

BAKER & MCKENZIE

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MERGERS & ACQUISITIONS LAWYER HONG KONG

Baker & McKenzie is the world's largest law firm with 56 offices in 34 countries. We believe we have established a commercial practice in Hong Kong that is recognised as the market leader in Asia. Our mergers and acquisitions team is currently seeking a talented lawyer with a desire to relocate to one of the world's most economically buoyant areas - Hong Kong.

Candidates should have around 3 to 4 years' post qualification experience, including several years of general commercial experience as well as

considerable exposure to mergers and acquisitions work, most likely in a city firm. An interest in or knowledge of infrastructure related industries will be considered an advantage.

Success in this role demands a high degree of motivation, a commercial results-oriented approach and excellent interpersonal skills. A competitive salary package, including relocation expenses, settling-in allowance, club membership, life insurance and medical insurance will be offered to the successful candidate.

Please send a full curriculum vitae to Ms Hilda Soo, Professional Development Manager, 14th Floor, Hutchison House, 10 Harcourt Road, Central, Hong Kong. Fax: (852) 2845-0476. <http://www.bakeryinfo.com>

INCE
& CO.

SOLICITORS

We are leaders in the field of commercial dispute resolution in the City of London and in the shipping and insurance industries. We need lawyers for our London and foreign offices to service an international client base.

You will have strong academic credentials and have undertaken excellent training in your two year traineeship. You will now have up to three years PQE, all or most of which will have been in the field of dispute resolution. You seek fresh challenges. You will receive benefits and remuneration commensurate with a City firm. Personal presence, a sensitivity to different cultures and a courageous tenacity in achieving the best for your client are also important prerequisites.

Although an advantage, a knowledge of the shipping and insurance industries is not essential.

If you wish to apply please send your curriculum vitae by 30th May 1997 to Kate Bottomley.

Ince & Co., Knollys House, 11 Ryward Street, London EC3R 5EN.

LONDON

HONG KONG

SINGAPORE

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Rivington
Street, London
EC2A 3QB.

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221/222 & 223, P. 4th

0171-497-5464

LEISURE FLOAT SEC

0171-497-5465

LIQUIDATION SEC (IMMEDIATE)

0171-497-5466

LOCUS SOLICITOR - CHANCERY

(Probate, Securities, Land, etc.)

0171-497-5467

TELE: 0171-497-5468

FAX: 0812084-SEAFLAW G

The Partners of
JACKSON PARTON

are pleased to announce that with effect from 1st May 1997

Charles Weller

has joined the partnership.

Shipping and
Commercial Solicitors, 18 Mansell Street,

London E1 8SA

Tel: 0171 702 0085 Fax: 0171 702 0858

Fax: 0812084-SEAFLAW G

The Government of the Cayman Islands has vacancies for the position of:
Law Lecturer

at the Cayman Islands Law School

The Cayman Islands are a British Crown colony in the West Indies located 450 miles south of Miami, Florida. A successful offshore financial centre and popular tourist destination with a population of 30,000, the Islands enjoy one of the highest living standards in the Caribbean.

The Law School is an affiliated institution of the University of Liverpool with a Faculty of five Lecturers and an enrolment of approximately 60 students.

Applicants should have a good law degree, a postgraduate qualification in law and previous relevant experience, teaching or in practice. Experience in Land Law, Conveyancing, Equity & trusts, Law of the European Union, Banking Law or Intellectual Property Law should be an asset, as would a record of research and publication.

Salary will be in the range of CIS39,396 - 42,360 per annum tax-free (CIS = US\$ = 1-1.20). Benefits include air passages, medical care and a Contracted Officers Supplement of 15% of salary paid monthly. Appointment will be on a two year contract.

Application forms, together with job description and recruitment notice are available from:

The Cayman Islands Government Representative

6 Arlington Street

London SW1A 1RE

ENGLAND

Telephone: 0171 491 7779

Completed application forms with a curriculum vitae should be returned by 6 June 1997.

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LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

FAX:
0171 782 7899

LEGAL COUNSEL

International Asset Management

Our client is a very substantial investment manager with an international institutional client base dealing in fixed income, equities, and a growing emerging markets involvement. There are a number of managed authorised UK unit trusts.

There is a requirement for an in-house legal counsel, City based, to assume responsibility for the review and negotiation of investment management agreements, counterparty, supplier and contractor terms of business. Additionally, the counsel will be expected to be sufficiently knowledgeable to give sound advice on new fund vehicles, and manage company secretarial functions for both the asset management and unit trust management companies. Knowledge of the IMRO rules is essential, and experience of unit trust regulations would be an advantage.

Candidates should have 3 or 4 years' directly relevant experience gained with either a substantial legal practice or in fund management, preferably with an international bias.

Ideal age is late 20s. Salary is c£50,000 with some room for discussion. Benefits are generous and career prospects excellent. Please forward a full CV with salary details, quoting reference 1460, to Terry Fuller, Director,

Kidsons Impey Search & Selection Ltd.

29 Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5LP

Tel: 0171 321 0336 Fax: 0171 976 1116 E-Mail: 106141.3404@CompuServe.com

**KIDSONS
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Search & Selection Limited
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ZENECA
AgrochemicalsSENIOR
COMMERCIAL
LAWYER

ZENECA is a leading international bioscience company active in the research, development, production, and marketing of pharmaceuticals, agrochemicals and speciality chemicals.

ZENECA Agrochemicals, which provides a broad range of innovative crop protection products, had a 1996 turnover in excess of £1.8 billion and sales in over 130 countries, placing ZENECA among the world's top three agrochemical companies.

ZENECA Agrochemicals now wishes to appoint a dynamic and results-orientated solicitor or barrister, with a minimum of five years' post qualification experience, to join its headquarters' Legal Affairs Department of seven lawyers.

The successful candidate will be able to demonstrate a sustained track record of involvement in complex and/or high value commercial transactions and the ability to work largely unsupervised while operating as part of a total management team in the shaping of business decisions. A working knowledge of (or possibly specialisation in) intellectual property and/or competition laws would be a distinct advantage, as would previous experience of the bioscience industry.

The position will demand the creative skills and energy to prioritise and manage a diverse portfolio of challenging tasks. Overseas travel is likely to be a significant component of the job.

ZENECA Agrochemicals is situated in an attractive rural location in West Sussex, around an hour's journey by road or rail from London. A competitive remuneration package will be offered including pension and private health scheme as well as the use of a company car.

NEW CHALLENGES

INTERNATIONAL FINANCE To £70,000

If you want to be a finance lawyer and you want a strong international element to your work, this top 10 City firm is the place to be. It has a market-leading practice and needs lawyers with 0-5 years' ppe to begin, project finance, structured finance, capital markets, securitisations or derivatives. Ref: T16233

VENTURE CAPITAL To £Partnership

This is an exciting opportunity for a senior venture capital lawyer to join as a partner at a leading London firm with a top reputation for media work. You will already be a partner or a senior associate and have a following and maybe even a team as you build up the firm's capability in this area. Ref: T39914

CAPITAL MARKETS To £15 Salary

Be sure all the great action is in London as the moment of joining this major US firm. All the benefits associated with a move, particularly in terms of partnership and salary, are offered to a senior capital markets lawyer with a good following. The move could set you up for life. Ref: T39914

IN-HOUSE BANKING Hong Kong To £Top ex-pat

A superbly robust set of exciting locations, fantastic pay and very business-oriented work is offered to a senior banking lawyer with up to 10 years' ppe to build the legal function of this major international bank's Hong Kong operations. It also needs a junior lawyer with 1-2 years' ppe. Ref: T39981

EC/COMPETITION To £Excellent

Many US firms use their London offices as staging posts for the whole of their European practices, making an EC/competition capability crucial. This is reflected by the opportunity at this leading Washington firm's London office for a lawyer with 2-3 years' ppe. Ref: T39981

FINANCIAL SERVICES To £65,000

Financial services is one of the best specialisms to have right now, and the opening at this leading City firm proves it. A highly progressive and innovative firm, a lawyer with 1-4 years' ppe can expect promotion based purely on merit and the chance to work for one of the leading practices in the field. Ref: T39233

SENIOR EMPLOYMENT To Partnership

If you are a senior employment assistant (around 6 years' qualified) and are seeking early partnership, this top 20 City firm is the one. The department offers an excellent spread of contentious and non-contentious work for a significant range of clients. Partner with contacts would also fit. Ref: T39981

PROPERTY To £75,000

This leading City firm is widely acknowledged as having one of the very best property practices in the country. The chance to join it, therefore, does not come around too often. However, it is on a major recruitment drive right now so first rate property lawyers with 6-7 years' ppe and a broad range of expertise should apply. Ref: T15493

CORPORATE TAX To £55,000

You will take the opportunity to join this top 10 firm if you value the chance to work in one of the City's leading tax practices. The recession you will be working on areas of tax compliance and high-profile in the world and a tax lawyer with 2-4 years' ppe will never want for a challenge. Ref: T36212

IP To £68,000

As this top 10 City firm, IP lawyers with 1-6 years' ppe will be working on the commercial aspects of IP and IT, specialising in non-contentious aspects of the high technology and telecommunications industries. This is a very good opening for ambitious lawyers who want to be the best around. Ref: T15493

For further information, in complete confidence, please contact Emma Cowell, Seamus Hoer or Nick Peacock (all qualified lawyers) on 0171-403 4042 (0171-427 3674 or 0171-403 5727 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Quarry Dougall Recruitment, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4PL. Confidential fax 0171-631 6394.

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With over 5,000 employees in the UK, a turnover of c.£2 billion and sites across Europe in Amsterdam, Barcelona, Rickmansworth, Cranfield and Sunderland, Nissan is one of the largest international motor manufacturers.

Its European legal team operates throughout these locations and now wishes to appoint a legal adviser to be based at its manufacturing arm in Sunderland, reporting to the Group Legal Adviser in Rickmansworth.

The role is very much at the "coal face" of a major manufacturing plant. As the successful candidate, you will be exposed to a wide range of legal issues and personalities. The work will include corporate, commercial contract, employment, property, IP, research and development and EC/competition matters. As well as advising on day-to-day legal issues arising in the North East, you will also be required to advise other companies within the Group.

You will be a barrister or solicitor with at least four years' ppe, an impressive commercial law background with experience or particular interest in employment law, a good academic record and the ability to "think on your feet". Flexibility and an approachable manner are also essential as you must be able to deliver practical and commercial legal advice at all levels of a modern non-hierarchical company. A working knowledge of IT would also be useful.

In return, an attractive national salary, company car and other benefits are offered. If you think you have the necessary attributes, together with an interest in the motor manufacturing sector, then we look forward to hearing from you.

Please send your cv with covering letter to our retained consultants, Lisa Hicks, ZMB, 37 Sun Street, London, EC2M 2PY or Lindsay Sandiford, ZMB, North, Portland Tower, Portland Street, Manchester, M1 3LF. Closing date for applications is 28th May 1997. All direct and third party applications will be forwarded to ZMB.

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The ITF players, their points and their values if you are considering the transfer option

Code	Name	Team	Pts	Wk	Over
10101	M Watt	Aberdeen	1.50	-0	-12
10102	N Walker	Aberdeen	1.00	-0	-14
10201	D Seaman	Arsenal	5.00	-0	+85
10202	V Bartko	Blackburn	0.75	-0	0
10203	J Luke	Arsenal	0.75	-0	+1
10501	M Boniek	Aston Villa	3.50	-0	+31
10502	M Okoko	Aston Villa	1.00	-0	+17
10401	T Flowers	Blackburn Rovers	3.00	-0	-7
10402	S Given	Blackburn Rovers	2.00	-0	+4
10501	G Marshall	Celtic	3.50	+0	+8
10502	S Kerr	Celtic	3.00	-0	+30
10503	D Kharis	Chelsea	2.50	-0	+10
10502	K Hitchcock	Chelsea	2.00	-1	-28
10503	F Grodzek	Chelsea	3.00	-0	-9
10701	S Ogrodnik	Coventry City	1.50	-1	-42
10702	J Flanagan	Coventry City	0.50	-0	0
10601	M Taylor	Derby County	1.00	-0	-2
10602	R Hoult	Derby County	1.00	-0	+41
10804	M Poom	Derby County	1.00	-0	-5
10901	A Maxwell	Dundee United	0.50	-0	+4
10902	L Key	Dundee United	0.50	-0	-10
11001	M Wark	Dundee United	2.50	-0	-2
11001	N Southall	Dundee United	0.50	-0	-59
11001	P Gaivard	Everton	2.50	-0	-38
11001	H Harts	Everton	2.00	-0	+1
11201	G Rousset	Hibernian	2.00	-0	-5
11301	J Leighton	Hibernian	1.50	-1	-30
11401	D Lascoue	Hibernian	1.50	-0	-42
11501	M Beaneey	Leeds United	1.50	-0	-1
11502	P Evans	Leeds United	0.25	-0	0
11503	N Marley	Leeds United	2.50	-0	+10
11601	K Poole	Leicester City	1.00	-0	-19
11601	K Keller	Leicester City	1.00	-0	-20
11701	D James	Liverpool	5.00	-0	-40
11702	T Warner	Liverpool	0.50	-0	0
11703	J Nielsen	Liverpool	1.00	-0	0
11801	P Schmeichel	Manchester United	5.00	-0	+8
11802	R Van Der Gouw	Manchester United	1.00	-0	+2
11901	G Walsh	Middlesbrough	1.50	-1	-5
11902	S Thompson	Middlesbrough	2.00	-0	-3
11903	B Roberts	Middlesbrough	1.50	-2	-20
12001	S Howie	Motherwell	1.50	-0	-20
12101	S Hislop	Newcastle United	4.00	-0	-18
12102	P Smulac	Newcastle United	3.00	+15	+20
12201	M Crossley	Nottingham Forest	2.50	-0	-49
12202	A Fettis	Nottingham Forest	0.75	-0	-8
12301	S Thompson	Rangers	0.50	-1	-78
12401	A Goran	Rangers	5.00	-0	+29
12402	A Dibble	Rangers	3.50	-0	+7
12501	K Pressman	Sheffield Wednesday	2.00	-0	-15
12502	M Clarke	Sheffield Wednesday	0.50	-0	-5
12601	D Beasant	Southampton	1.00	-0	-28
12604	N Moss	Southampton	0.25	-0	+2
12605	M Taylor	Sunderland	1.00	-1	-7
12703	L Perez	Sunderland	0.50	-1	-38
12801	T Coton	Tottenham Hotspur	1.00	-0	+9
12902	E Baardsen	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	-3	-2
12901	L Mikkelsen	West Ham United	2.00	-2	-20
13001	N Stilhaves	Wimbledon	1.00	-0	+42
13002	P Head	Wimbledon	1.00	-0	-4



They know it's all over for Peter Reid and Sunderland after losing their relegation struggle, but how about you?

PEACE

Code Name Team Pts Wk Over

30401 C Hendry Blackburn Rovers 4.00 +1+32

30402 J Pearce Blackburn Rovers 2.50 +1 +3

30403 C Coleman Blackburn Rovers 2.50 0 -3

30404 N Marler Blackburn Rovers 0.50 -0 +6

30501 T Boyd Celtic 3.00 +7+40

30502 M McGarry Celtic 1.50 +7+44

30503 A Stubbs Celtic 3.50 0 +22

30504 B O'Neill Celtic 3.00 -0 +4

30505 E Annini Celtic 2.50 0 +1

30506 M Duberry Chelsea 2.50 +0+33

30507 F Leboeuf Chelsea 2.50 0 +33

30508 D Sinclair Chelsea 2.00 -1 0

30601 D Lee Chelsea 2.00 0 +3

30602 A Myers Chelsea 1.50 0 +5

30603 E Johnson Chelsea 1.50 +0+18

30701 R Shaw Coventry City 2.00 0 +5

30702 G Evans Coventry City 1.50 0 +2

30703 A Evtushok Coventry City 1.50 0 +1

30704 J Pritchett Coventry City 2.50 -0 10

30705 E Johnson Coventry City 2.00 0 +10

30801 K Richardson Coventry City 1.50 0 +35

30802 D Wessall Derby County 1.00 0 0

30803 P McGrath Derby County 2.50 -0 4

30804 J Laurenson Derby County 1.00 +2+10

30805 M Williams Derby County 0.50 -0 5

30806 A Presley Dundee United 1.00 +2+8

31001 I Den Blaen Dundee United 0.75 0 -6

31002 D Unsworth Dundee United 2.50 0 +12

31003 D Watson Dundee United 2.00 0 +11

31004 C Short Dundee United 2.00 0 +8

31005 M McPherson Dundee United 0.50 -0 49

31006 D McPherson Dundee United 0.50 -0 48

31007 D Wetherall Dundee United 2.50 0 +42

31008 R Johnson Dundee United 1.00 0 +2

31009 J McLaughlin Dundee United 0.50 0 +4

31010 B Welab Dundee United 0.75 0 +9

31011 G Hunter Dundee United 0.50 0 -3

31012 S Dennis Dundee United 1.00 0 -19

31013 M Reilly Dundee United 1.00 +4+17

31014 K McNamee Dundee United 2.50 0 +21

31015 P McNamee Dundee United 2.50 0 +28

31016 S Flynn Dundee United 0.75 0 +12

31017 D Rovatt Dundee United 0.50 0 +12

31018 J Morris Dundee United 2.00 0 +8

31019 G McNamee Dundee United 1.50 0 +1

31020 R Williams Dundee United 1.50 0 +67

31021 G Johnstone Dundee United 1.00 0 0

31022 J Dolan Dundee United 1.00 0 +1+32

31023 D Watson Dundee United 1.00 0 +1+28

31024 C Montenegro Dundee United 0.75 0 +1+42

31025 R Johnson Dundee United 2.50 0 +2+33

31026 J McNamee Dundee United 2.00 0 +3+45

31027 M McNamee Dundee United 2.00 0 +2+50

31028 J McNamee Dundee United 2.00 0 +2+57

31029 M McNamee Dundee United 2.00 0 +2+64

31030 M McNamee Dundee United 2.00 0 +2+71

31031 M McNamee Dundee United 2.00 0 +2+78

31032 M McNamee Dundee United 2.00 0 +2+85

31033 M McNamee Dundee United 2.00 0 +2+91

31034 M McNamee Dundee United 2.00 0 +2+98

31035 M McNamee Dundee United 2.00 0 +3+01

31036 M McNamee Dundee United 2.00 0 +3+08

31037 M McNamee Dundee United 2.00 0 +3+15

31038 M McNamee Dundee United 2.00 0 +3+22

31039 M McNamee Dundee United 2.00 0 +3+39

31040 M McNamee Dundee United 2.00 0 +3+46

31041 M McNamee Dundee United 2.00 0 +3+53

31042 M McNamee Dundee United 2.00 0 +3+60

31043 M McNamee Dundee United 2.00 0 +3+67

31044 M McNamee Dundee United 2.00 0 +3+74

31045 M McNamee Dundee United 2.00 0 +3+81

31046 M McNamee Dundee United 2.00 0 +3+88

31047 M McNamee Dundee United 2.00 0 +3+91

31048 M McNamee Dundee United 2.00 0 +3+98

FOOTBALL

Robson pays heavy price for flaws in foreign policy

By OLIVER HOLT, FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

THERE was honour amid relegation for Bryan Robson on Sunday. The Middlesbrough manager shook the hands of the Leeds United players who had finally consigned his team to the Nationwide League and then strode onto the pitch to comfort his players like a general tending to the dying and wounded after a great battle.

In the sunshine at Elland Road lay the ruins of Robson's grand plan to establish Teesside as an unlikely outpost for the extravagance of a band of footballing millionaires. As the season had worn on and the alarm bells kept ringing, his failure had become every bit as compelling as the race for the FA Carling Premiership itself.

Manchester United were always the favourites and they duly sprayed the champagne at Old Trafford, having won at a canter after Liverpool's flawed challenge disintegrated in the final weeks of the campaign, helped by a spate of errors from the unfortunate David James.

Leicester City and their hyperactive manager, Martin O'Neill, one of the managers of the year, provided the best of the light relief, winning the Coca-Cola Cup and finishing a highly creditable ninth in the Premiership. Arsenal finally and conclusively shed their "boring" tag under the enlightened stewardship of Arsene Wenger and did enough to suggest that they will be serious contenders next season.

In the end, though, it was Newcastle United who leapt into the second Champions' League position with the final flourish of a 5-0 win over Nottingham Forest at St James' Park. A more solid, better organised outfit since Kevin Keegan became the season's most notable individual casualty and Kenny Dalglish took over as manager, their late-season form has been the equivalent of a declaration of championship intent.

For casualties, though, Middlesbrough take the prize.

There was the failure of one of the advance guards of the famed "foreign legion", the failure of a policy of buying big and trying to blend superstars with journeymen, hoping that their sublime skills would trickle down and inspire some of the average players around them.

Emerson, the superbly gifted Brazilian midfield player whom Robson bought from FC Porto, seemed to start the rot with his series of unauthorised fits back at Rio to comfort his girlfriend, who was apparently traumatised by Middlesbrough's winter climate. His painfully transparent efforts to force Robson

to grant him a transfer were

into granting him a transfer put the manager in an invidious position and affected team morale. When Fabrizio Ravanelli began criticising the club's training facilities in Italian newspapers, matters got worse.

Juninho was the one shining light in the darkness, a pocket dynamo of Brazilian midfield brilliance and unswerving devotion to the club. His devastation on Sunday, as he sat on the pitch choking back tears, was the most poignant image of the season.

The behaviour of Emerson was, perhaps, beyond Robson's control, sotzetting for which he could not legislate.

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That dream, along with Middlesbrough's, died at Elland Road on Sunday. ...

Robson: let down



As Chelsea's fitness trainer, Mafe is responsible for ensuring that the likes of Gianluca Vialli are in perfect shape. Photograph: Tony O'Brien

Mafe trains his eye on the twin towers

Russell Kempson on the former sprinter who hopes to have the Chelsea players in peak condition at Wembley on Saturday

and seek alternative employment.

Mafe, 30, maintains an anonymous profile in Harlington, among the instantly recognisable bald heads, shaved skulls and dreadlocks. Yet he plays a key role in the Ruud Gullit roadshow and will sit on the bench at Wembley on Saturday, when Chelsea play Middlesbrough in the FA Cup Final.

It is 13 years since he became the youngest British male athlete, at 17, to reach an Olympic final, when he finished eighth behind Carl Lewis in the 200 metres in Los Angeles. It is seven years since he won a Commonwealth Games bronze medal in the 200 metres final in Auckland, completing an England clean sweep with Marcus Adam and John Regis.

It is also six years since he helped the British 4x400 metres relay squad to gold in the 1991 world championships in Tokyo, alongside Mark Richardson, Kris Akabusi, Roger Black, Derek Redmond and Regis; and it is four years since a broken toe, which went undiagnosed for a season, forced him to drift from the public consciousness.

"I'd only ever seen one football match before I joined Chelsea," Mafe said. "but after 15 years in athletics, I found there were many things I could adapt to a football environment. The players are in pretty good shape here, although the foreign lads perhaps have a better mentality towards fitness conditioning than the British ones."

The foreigners know that conditioning is as important as technical ability. Telling them to do something is not a

problem. The British tend to think that if they can play football, they're OK. To get them to run is something you have to educate them about."

Mafe orchestrates the pre-training and pre-match warm-

ups, supervises players returning from injury and watches hawk-like during matches. "If I see someone's flagging, I make a note and maybe give him a bit extra to do the following week," he said. "I might say to Ruud: 'He's had it, he's knackered,' but it's up to him whether he keeps the player on or takes him off."

Gullit, as he recovers from ankle surgery, has not escaped the treatment. "I have to push him, I can't be too soft on him," Mafe said. "He tries to shirk it sometimes, and he moans a bit, but he knows it's for his own benefit. He might be my boss but he's still a player and I tell him to get on with it."

Pew dicte to Gullit and survive. Yet Mafe's manner is born of confidence, calm inner belief, not arrogance. He talks freely, swiftly and pauses only to recall the many memories of an athletics career that, frustratingly, rarely matched its initial promise.

Four years after his Olympic debut, he returned to Los Angeles in an effort to salvage his sanity. "Maybe I grew up a bit too quickly," he said. "Everything was going wrong, it was all collapsing around me. I needed to get away, I had to find myself again."

He eventually came home, reinvigorated, and changed coaches. Bronze in Auckland was tempered by subsequent Achilles problems, pushing him into a premature switch from 200 to 400 metres, and although relative success followed, he opted for retirement after surgery on his broken

"I was told I could have kept on running but I felt it was the time to get out," he said. "Maybe it was a message, maybe it all happened for a reason. I believe that your destiny lies in your own hands, you have to make the best of it when the chance comes along. I wish I'd made my decision earlier but you're always chasing that dream, aren't you?"

Mafe is content. He has a two-year contract to carry on conditioning the Chelsea thoroughbreds, while his parents, Conforto and Ade Sr, have become enthusiastic followers of the club. "They've both got their scarves for Wembley," he said. Ola, his sister, will be there, too, plus a few friends.

He has no regrets, either. "I've been all over the world and been in all the major stadiums," he said, "now I'm going to all the major football grounds. I usually watch the FA Cup Final at home on television — you know, the bit when the cameras are on the team bus. I'm now going to be on that bus."

RUGBY LEAGUE: MARTYN AND McDERMOTT DRAFTED IN FOR INTERNATIONAL

Ancestry an asset as Ireland tackle France

ankle injury, nearly half of the Ireland side has a Super League background.

Apart from a small contingent of England-based personnel and four players from the Paris Saint-Germain club, most members of the France team, drawn from their domestic competition, have not played competitively since the end of March. Although considerably more experienced as a team at international level, France are unlikely to find Ireland in accommodating mood.

The success of the fixture, and another between Scotland and France in Glasgow,

in July, could lead to the development of a five nations' competition. A Super League club based in Dublin is still a possibility, and a Cardiff academy side represents a new start for the sport in Wales.

Andy Hay has become the fourth player recruited by Leeds from Sheffield Eagles since the arrival from Sheffield last year of Gary Hetherington as chief executive. Hay, 23, follows Ryan Sheridan, Dean Lawford, and Anthony Farrell. Richie Eyres, the former Great Britain forward, has made the reverse move to Sheffield, initially on loan.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

0171-782 7344

LEGAL NOTICES

No. 002087 of 1997
In the High Court of Justice
Chancery Division
Companies Court

IN THE MATTER OF FRAMLINGTON
GROUP LTD

and

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES
ACT 1985

Notice is hereby given that a PETITION was on the 24th day of April 1997 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the CONFIRMATION of the CANCELLATION of the SHARE PREMIUM ACCOUNT of the above-named Company personally amounting to £15,372,388.94.

And Notice is further given that the said PETITION is directed to be heard before the Registrar of the Companies Court at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London, WC2A 2LL on the 21st day of May, 1997.

Any Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said cancellation of share premium account should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.

A copy of the said PETITION will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undersigned Solicitors on payment of the registered charge for the same.

Dated the 15th day of May 1997.

STEPHENSON HARWOOD
One St Paul's, Chancery
Lane, London EC4M 8EP
Tel: 0171 329 4022
Fax: 071 226 2322

Solicitors for the above-named Company

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARITY COMMISSION

The National Sea Training Trust

Notices issued in respect of the objects of the charity

Reference TBS-16-003-CX/20

The Charity Commissioners

have power to make for this charity a Scheme for the

use and management of the

charitable property and

any other power which

they may by order make

in respect of the objects of

the charity.

Reference TBS-16-003-CX/20

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CRICKET

Snape spin enlivens a thin day in the sun

By MICHAEL HENDERSON

NORTHAMPTON (Leicestershire won toss): Northamptonshire (2pts) beat Leicestershire by 52 runs

THE preliminary skirmishes in the Benson and Hedges Cup have produced some awful games in their time, but few can ever have been so dismal as this. The batting was poor, much of the bowling was lamentable, and the fielding was indifferent. There was not a single memory any spectator could take away from the day's play. It was abysmal cricket.

Northamptonshire, by virtue of their victory, go through to the quarter-final stage. Leicestershire were there already, having won their first three group matches. Now the competition can begin in earnest. It doesn't half waste time at the start of the season, when teams should be playing proper cricket.

The gold award went to an off spinner, Jeremy Snape, who took five Leicestershire wickets as they fell apart. Maddy had given them a good start and even when Habib was the third man out at 27, caught by Emburey at long-off, there were still 18 overs in which to make 112. But they were not up to it, and Snape gutted the middle order to enjoy a rare day in the sun.

Emburey played his part. He made ground to hold his catch and he bowled his off spin tidily, conceding as few runs — 32 — as Snape from his ten overs. He took only wicket, but it was a good one, that of Maddy, whose timing and placement were secure until he clipped a catch to Bailey at short mid-wicket.

Nell Johnson, the South African all-rounder chosen to be Leicestershire's overseas player this year, was the only man to pass fifty, and he did not bat all that well. The manner of his dismissal, caught at mid-wicket as he tried to wallop a full toss into a neighbouring parish, caught the mood of the day.

That mood was established early on, as Mullally and Millns launched the North-

amptonshire innings with a succession of wickets. There were 17 in the innings, 26 in the match, and some of them were very wide indeed. Johnson, bowling his unexceptional medium pace, actually landed one ball on an adjacent strip. Is it asking too much for professionals to pitch it on the relevant strip?

Capel, who swatted Johnson for one well-timed six into the cars at mid-wicket, gave Leicestershire a swift enough start with Loye. Johnson broke the stand when Capel cut to backward point, and Loye fell three runs short of a half-century when he was thinking about adding a few more. Curran failed and Bailey never got going. Penberthy's 38 proved valuable and Walton finished on 35, not out as Northamptonshire eventually reached 238 for eight.

It appeared to be fairly plain sailing in the early stages of the reply. Maddy should have gone on 32 when Ripley, moving across Emburey at slip, put the fielder off, but the opener was playing freely enough to encourage James Whitaker, the Leicestershire captain, who was nursing a finger he injured during the Northamptonshire innings, to think he may not be required to make a decisive contribution.

Paul Strang and Shaun Young, these sides' respective new overseas professionals, will be mystified by talk of drought and water rationing.

Strang demonstrated what a neat and nimble batsman he can be by contributing 38 off 33 balls, his innings emphasising the strength of the Kent tail. They are already in the last eight but need to win here to ensure a tie at Canterbury.

Their resilience was apparent in a recovery, on a pitch of little pace from six to two in the fourth over. Ward was bowled driving and Fleming, for whom the term pinch-hitter might have been created, top-edged to mid-off. When Wells fell to a fine slip catch, Kent were 39 for three with 13 overs gone.

That brought in Nigel

BRISTOL (Kent won toss): Gloucestershire, with all wickets in hand, need a further 215 runs from 46 overs to beat Kent

KENT'S advance on the quarter-finals of the Benson and Hedges Cup was interrupted by another wave of the rain cycle. Play was delayed for two hours and then halted soon after 5pm by another downpour.

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Liong to partner Graham Cowdrey in a stand of gradually increasing momentum, the next 21 overs bringing 100 runs as Mark Alleyne tried unsuccessfully to widen the breach. Richard Davis, the former Kent left-arm spinner, might have had Wells stumped off his first ball, which flew off Russell's pads. Ball, the off spinner, suffered most from Cowdrey, who lifted and pulled him for two sixes.

Liong was the first to go, run out going for a third by Cudliffe's long throw. He was one short of a half-century, his best shot having been a skimming cover drive off Hancock. Cowdrey's belligerence was brought to an end by a stumping. His 77 off 106 balls was his best score in this competition.

Kent's strength was demonstrated by the addition of 80 off the last ten overs as Strang and Marsh, his captain, welcomed the return of the seamer.

The target of 240 against their bowlers will not be easily reached on what will easily be a wet outfield. Gloucestershire had four overs in which Monte Lynch laid about the wicket, hitting three boundaries.

Byas and Darren Lehmann, the Australian, who is already a firm favourite with the spectators, added 58 in ten overs for the second wicket, a partnership that laid the ground for McGrath's dominance, which was so complete in this competition.

McGrath's century gives home comfort

BY DEREK HODGSON

Cowdrey prompts Kent recovery

BY MICHAEL AUSTIN

HEADINGLEY (Yorkshire won toss): Yorkshire (2pts) beat Minor Counties by 184 runs

THIS win over Minor Counties yesterday was no great achievement by Yorkshire, for whom Anthony McGrath's unbeaten 109 from 85 balls was his best score in the Benson and Hedges Cup, but it guaranteed them a home draw in the quarter-final.

Dean, of Staffordshire, had 11 fours in his 56, made from 52 balls, but when Craig White bowled Wayne Larkins, Dean and Ian Cockbain at a cost of seven runs in the space of nine balls, it was start of a complete collapse. Minor Counties, 63 without loss in 12 overs, lost ten wickets adding another 62. Nick Gaywood, last out, played staunchly to score 30 from 55 balls.

Richard Dalton, of Bedfordshire, the gold award winner at Worcester, where he scored 69 and took three for 33, had a distinctly less profitable day. He conceded 80 from ten overs and was out first ball, caught at slip.

Three Yorkshire bowlers were on a hat-trick — White, Richard Stimp and Peter Hardie — but none could achieve it. Although this will be Yorkshire's eleventh quarter-final appearance, they have only once gone on to win the trophy.

they added in a sixth-wicket partnership worth 112.

Steve Dean, profiting as the bowlers fed his leg-side strengths, launched the Minor Counties innings in some style and Darren Gough conceded 25 runs from six overs in which he rarely looked likely to take a wicket.

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Essex spared Curry's clout

Andrew Longmore, in damp Downpatrick, meets Ireland's answer to Gilbert Jessop

and May is not usually its driest month.

So the Essex bowlers live to fight another day and the London Derby legend has to wait a while to snare some more famous foes. Desmond — better known as Dekker — Curry, alias The Sheep-strangler, can empty pubs even in these hard-drinking parts. A left-handed opener with forearms honed during his daily shifts in the abattoir, Curry once hit 230 in a 40-over game for his home club at Donemun.

The ground had short boundaries, he says modestly, but the people of Clogharn will tell you how little that matters. One six on their ground cleared the wall round their ground, the houses beyond that and was last seen heading for the town square. "I really

slapped that one," Curry recalled with a smile. "It has always been his way, to give it a slap as Angus Fraser will tell you through gritted teeth.

Fraser was the prime victim of an assault in the historic victory by Ireland over Middlesex earlier this season. Hardie set the tone of disrespect with 75 at just under a run a ball and won the man-of-the-match award.

On the third ball of the game, he advanced down the wicket and deposited the old England warhorse back to the fence. Imagine the glower that indignity induced.

"When I first saw him, he reminded me a little of Viv Richards, the way he put his foot down the wicket and whipped everything through the leg side; now he plays straighter," Mike Hendrick, the Ireland coach, said. Had the advice come a little earlier in his life, Curry might now be playing county cricket.

He has not given up all hope of a game or two on Sundays, even at the age of 30. County publicans would be wise to lobby against it.

WESTERN SUPERBOARDS

Benson & Hedges Cup

Lancashire v Worcestershire

OLD TRAFFORD (Lancashire won toss); Scores here

Worcestershire beat Lancashire by losing fewer wickets by losing fewer wickets

WICKETS: 1-95, 2-182, 3-284, 4-285, 5-277, 6-277, 7-277, 8-277, 9-277, 10-277, 11-277, 12-277, 13-277, 14-277, 15-277, 16-277, 17-277, 18-277, 19-277, 20-277, 21-277, 22-277, 23-277, 24-277, 25-277, 26-277, 27-277, 28-277, 29-277, 30-277, 31-277, 32-277, 33-277, 34-277, 35-277, 36-277, 37-277, 38-277, 39-277, 40-277, 41-277, 42-277, 43-277, 44-277, 45-277, 46-277, 47-277, 48-277, 49-277, 50-277, 51-277, 52-277, 53-277, 54-277, 55-277, 56-277, 57-277, 58-277, 59-277, 60-277, 61-277, 62-277, 63-277, 64-277, 65-277, 66-277, 67-277, 68-277, 69-277, 70-277, 71-277, 72-277, 73-277, 74-277, 75-277, 76-277, 77-277, 78-277, 79-277, 80-277, 81-277, 82-277, 83-277, 84-277, 85-277, 86-277, 87-277, 88-277, 89-277, 90-277, 91-277, 92-277, 93-277, 94-277, 95-277, 96-277, 97-277, 98-277, 99-277, 100-277, 101-277, 102-277, 103-277, 104-277, 105-277, 106-277, 107-277, 108-277, 109-277, 110-277, 111-277, 112-277, 113-277, 114-277, 115-277, 116-277, 117-277, 118-277, 119-277, 120-277, 121-277, 122-277, 123-277, 124-277, 125-277, 126-277, 127-277, 128-277, 129-277, 130-277, 131-277, 132-277, 133-277, 134-277, 135-277, 136-277, 137-277, 138-277, 139-277, 140-277, 141-277, 142-277, 143-277, 144-277, 145-277, 146-277, 147-277, 148-277, 149-277, 150-277, 151-277, 152-277, 153-277, 154-277, 155-277, 156-277, 157-277, 158-277, 159-277, 160-277, 161-277, 162-277, 163-277, 164-277, 165-277, 166-277, 167-277, 168-277, 169-277, 170-277, 171-277, 172-277, 173-277, 174-277, 175-277, 176-277, 177-277, 178-277, 179-277, 180-277, 181-277, 182-277, 183-277, 184-277, 185-277, 186-277, 187-277, 188-277, 189-277, 190-277, 191-277, 192-277, 193-277, 194-277, 195-277, 196-277, 197-277, 198-277, 199-277, 200-277, 201-277, 202-277, 203-277, 204-277, 205-277, 206-277, 207-277, 208-277, 209-277, 210-277, 211-277, 212-277, 213-277, 214-277, 215-277, 216-277, 217-277, 218-277, 219-277, 220-277, 221-277, 222-277, 223-277, 224-277, 225-277, 226-277, 227-277, 228-277, 229-277, 230-277, 231-277, 232-277, 233-277, 234-277, 235-277, 236-277, 237-277, 238-277, 239-277, 240-277, 241-277, 242-277, 243-277, 244-277, 245-277, 246-277, 247-277, 248-277, 249-277, 250-277, 251-277, 252-277, 253-277, 254-277, 255-277, 256-277, 257-277, 258-277, 259-277, 260-277, 261-277, 262-277, 263-277, 264-277, 265-277, 266-277, 267-277, 268-277, 269-277, 270-277, 271-277, 272-277, 273-277, 274-277, 275-277, 276-277, 277-277, 278-277, 279-277, 280-277, 281-277, 282-277, 283-277, 284-277, 285-277, 286-277, 287-277, 288-277, 289-277, 290-277, 291-277, 292-277, 293-277, 294-277, 295-277, 296-277, 297-277, 298-277, 299-277, 300-277, 301-277, 302-277, 303-277, 304-277, 305-277, 306-277, 307-277, 308-277, 309-277, 310-277, 311-277, 312-277, 313-277, 314-277, 315-277, 316-277, 317-277, 318-277, 319-277, 320-277, 321-277, 322-277, 323-277, 324-277, 325-277, 326-277, 327-277, 328-277, 329-277, 330-277, 331-277, 332-277, 333-277, 334-277, 335-277, 336-277, 337-277, 338-277, 339-277, 340-277, 341-277, 342-277, 343-277, 344-277, 345-277, 346-277, 347-277, 348-277, 349-277, 350-277, 351-277, 352-277, 353-277, 354-277, 355-277, 356-277, 357-277, 358-277, 359-277, 360-277, 361-277, 362-277, 363-277, 364-277, 365-277, 366-277, 367-277, 368-277, 369-277, 370-277, 371-277, 372-277, 373-277, 374-277, 375-277, 376-277, 37

CRICKET: SURREY SURPRISED BY STRENGTH OF SPIRITED CHALLENGE FROM CUP UNDERDOGS

Salisbury thwarts bold bid by Sussex

BY SIMON WILDE

THE OVAL (Sussex won toss);
Surrey (2pts) beat Sussex (0)

THIS promised to be the ultimate mismatch. Surrey, fancied by many — including themselves — as kings of county cricket's one-day jingle, versus scrawny Sussex, surely among the easiest of prey. One team with almost boundless hopes for what the season will bring, the other with no hope at all.

For half the day it looked as though the expected thrashing was duly being administered as Surrey headed for a stratospheric score. After one over from Jarvis and another from Khan, Sussex's plucky little leg spinner to whom Moores threw the new ball, the score was 22 for no wicket.

Brown scored 40 and Stewart 72, as together they thrashed 101 in 17 overs for the first wicket. Thorpe made 78 and Butcher 48, but how many should you score against non-hoppers on flat a pitch as that at the Oval, where totals of 300 are not uncommon in the Benson and Hedges Cup?

Surrey looked at their perspiring opponents, who bowled too many balls down the leg side, and were unsure. Losing their way in the last ten overs, they settled for a score of 301 for eight.

Sussex, of course, had no chance. But they had nothing to lose except another match and so went hell-for-leather for the runs. Rao, full of wristy pulls, and Greenfield ran like terrors and rode their luck to give them just the start they needed with 93 in 15 overs. The stand was only broken by a brilliant piece of fielding from Brown, who struck the stumps. Greenfield was heading for 20 yards.

Taylor and Mark Newell then played the best innings of the game. Taylor, who has a reputation in the champion-



Butcher, the Surrey batsman, beaten by a ball from Phillips, manages to regain his ground before Moores whips off the bails

ship as a slow scorer, looking destined for a seventh century in this competition, a tally exceeded only by Coonch. He struck 67 from 66 balls and Newell 60 from 60, both driving cleanly and precisely into the gaps.

At 268 for three in the 45th over, Sussex were winning the game and Surrey were well and truly rained. The tension got to them. When an appeal was turned down for a catch against Taylor, then on 58, off

the bowling of Rascall — a late stand-in for Lewis, who had a sore neck and was badly missed — words were directed at the batsmen and Stewart, keeping wicket for Surrey, and umpire Burgess stepped on each other's toes in their efforts to calm things down. When Rascall dismissed Taylor two overs later, he sent him with what looked like a few choice words.

That Sussex lost in the end — by 11 runs — was almost

beside the point. Victory would not have enabled them to qualify for the quarter-finals, or denied Surrey a place. They were playing for pride and, after their woeful showing at Lord's last week, when they mistakenly left out Newell, they well and truly rediscovered it. Their total of 299 was only four short of the highest by a team banting second in this competition and losing.

One of their pleasures was

to take runs off Salisbury, Khan's more illustrious predecessor, who left them during the winter, but he had the last laugh. He came back for a second spell in the heat of the battle, stuck to bowling over the wicket and at the stumps (unlike Khan), and for three fours and four in the penultimate over.

Then, in his penultimate over, he bowled Newell, indulging in a mighty heave, and in his last bowled Athey

and Phillips and had Khan leg-before. In the space of six balls he had claimed four wickets and Sussex, on 270 for eight, looked finished. Even then, Jarvis refused to give up and lifted Ben Hollingsworth for six, four and four in the penultimate over.

With 12 required from eight balls, Robinson provided Brown with another run out, wandering aimlessly up the pitch. It was an inappropriate dafit end to a noble effort.

RUGBY UNION

Grewcock called up to tour with England

BY DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

COVENTRY's late bid for a first-division place may have failed but it has helped propel Danny Grewcock into the England touring party that leaves for Argentina on Sunday. Grewcock and the experienced David Baldwin, from Sale, were named yesterday as replacements for the injured Martin Bayfield and John Fowler.

The decision to take Grewcock, 21, is a better option than the consideration given to the comparative veterans, Nigel Redman and Matt Poole. He represents the next generation and will benefit from the experience while Baldwin, 31, wins the place vacated by Fowler, his club colleague, as the result of his consistency throughout this and other seasons.

Since Gareth Archer, of Newcastle, is the only capped lock in the party, one of Baldwin, Grewcock or Martin Haag, of Bath, has the prospect of an unexpected international debut.

Wasps, who contribute

Ferreira loses his cool after defeat

WAYNE FERREIRA, a semi-finalist for the past two years, made a quick exit from the Italian Open tennis championships yesterday, squandering five match points on his way to a first-round defeat by Magnus Larsson, of Sweden. The ninth seed angrily threw his racket at a chair after failing to keep his nerve at the vital stages of a 4-6, 7-5, 7-6 upset on the grandstand court.

The court proved a graveyard for seeds as Australia's Mark Philippoussis lost in straight sets to Karim Alami, of Morocco, ranked 68 in the world. The No 16 seed was beaten 6-2, 6-0.

Golden rows

Rowing: A selection of juniors in line for possible Great Britain vests this year won a total of eight gold medals at Munich Regatta last weekend. Seventeen nations were present and the result was the best achieved at Munich since the British began attendance in 1994. Mark Banks, chief junior coach, said: "The standard is so hot at the moment."

Five of the gold medals came in sculling events.

Norman bids

Golf: Greg Norman will compete in the Lancome Trophy at St Nom-la-Bretèche near Paris from September 11 to 14. Norman has never won this event, his best finish being third in 1983 and 1988.

Siddall hopes

Tennis: Shirlie-Ann Siddall is one step away from joining fellow Britons, Sam Smith and Julie Sutcliffe, in the first round proper of the Welsh International Open ladies tournament in Cardiff. Siddall, ranked 229th in the world, followed up her triumph over the American, Debbie Graham with an even more impressive 6-2, 7-5 win against Sonya Jayaseelan, of Canada, ranked No 16.

Champion duel

Darts: Richie Burnett, the 1995 Embassy world champion, is to meet the reigning WDC world champion, Phil Taylor, in a special match at the Circus Tavern, Purfleet, Essex, on Sunday, June 29.

Hayden plays decisive role

BY JACK BAILEY

THE PARKS (British Universities won toss); Hampshire (2pts) beat British Universities by seven wickets

A DAY shot through with showers and accompanied by a bland pitch — though batsmen had to watch out for the odd ball which kept low — saw bat dominate ball in this game between teams without hope of further progress towards the Benson and Hedges Cup. But honour was at stake and, for the Universities, the possible cachet of two victories this season, over county teams, should they pull off a win.

It was not to be. Despite a fine century by Tim Hodgson, of Durham University and Essex, and an innings which went far beyond his pinching role from Umar Rashid, of whom Middlesex think highly as a bowler, they had neither the fire-power nor

the experience to combat the weighty batting of Matthew Hayden, or run-a-ball Robin Smith, following on a half-century from Giles White.

Cheered on by the Hampshire team as though it were the cup final itself, Hayden took full toll of Rashid's wayward left-arm slow bowing, went to his first century for his new county from 111 balls and, more than anyone, was responsible for Hampshire squeezing home. It was a near thing between him and Hodgson for the gold award, but Hayden's accurate bowles and Hedges' role had earned him two wickets and it went to him.

Hodgson should be nurtured by Essex, the county for whom he has already made the odd appearance. His 60 in the same competition against Kent was promising yesterday, he played with rare maturity, at the same time plundering the Hampshire

attack for all it was worth. His left-handed partnership with Rashid realised 168 from 32 overs and although Rashid's was the greater share, Hodgson was no slouch, certainly looking less vulnerable on his way to being sixth out. By then the score was in the heady realms of 266.

Rashid was promoted in the order to swing the bat and to take advantage of the short leg-side boundary, with Maru turning the ball into him. Good tactics, which succeeded more comprehensively than even Singh, the Universities captain, could have hoped. Rashid was not so much damaged Maru as take the rest of the Hampshire attack apart. His 82 came from 100 balls, interrupted by two showers, and with Hodgson's sterling effort, laid the foundations for a handsome total, though, as it transpired, not quite handsome enough.

Sound start by Somerset

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

IT IS 16 years since Middlesex last failed to win a match in the qualifying rounds of the Benson and Hedges Cup. In that year, three of their matches were abandoned. This season, they have already been beaten three times.

Yesterday, they yielded half-matches to Michael Burns and Peter Bowler that helped give Somerset the opportunity

to take runs off Salisbury, Khan's more illustrious predecessor, who left them during the winter, but he had the last laugh. He came back for a second spell in the heat of the battle, stuck to bowling over the wicket and at the stumps (unlike Khan), and for three fours and four in the penultimate over.

Then, in his penultimate over, he bowled Newell, indulging in a mighty heave, and in his last bowled Athey

and Phillips and had Khan leg-before. In the space of six balls he had claimed four wickets and Sussex, on 270 for eight, looked finished.

Even then, Jarvis refused to give up and lifted Ben Hollingsworth for six, four and four in the penultimate over.

With 12 required from eight balls, Robinson provided Brown with another run out, wandering aimlessly up the pitch. It was an inappropriate dafit end to a noble effort.

One of their pleasures was

of making certain of a place in the quarter-finals.

Burns' innings of 54 included a memorable six driven over cover point off Fraser. He was in for 72 balls and struck five fours before skying a catch to mid-on.

Bowler was unbeaten on 54, including seven fours, and Somerset on 172 for four, when the game was finally halted

on a rain-interrupted day. 38 overs were won.

Nick Knight, captain of Warwickshire in the absence of Tim Munton, was left frustrated as rain postponed the game against Derbyshire at Derby until today. The match is his only chance to bat in one-day cricket before the England selectors pick the squad for the Texaco Trophy series against Australia.

Knight broke a finger playing for England in New Zealand, but told David Gravener, the chairman of selectors, that he would be fit for the first Texaco game at Headington on May 22. "I have to score some runs to put myself in with a chance of being picked," Knight said.

The quarter-final draw will be held at 8.15am on Wednesday, May 14 and not Tuesday, May 13 as originally scheduled. The draw will be covered by BBC Radio 5 Live.

COMPANY GOLF DAYS RESULTS

The four top scores in the individual Stableford competition played on the company golf days listed below now comprise the team eligible to qualify for a regional final.

Meies Pierson

MEIES PIERSON

DATE COMPANY NAME VENUE SCORE

25 APR CRESCO INDUSTRIAL ROTHERHAM 129

25 APR SUPPLIES LTD D HUBBARD 38 • B BURCHILL 32 • J HAGINS 38

25 APR WASTE OILS LTD HURSTON HALL 121

25 APR CARNAUD METALBOX YEOLIL 147

25 APR C MOTES 3D BIRCH 38 • B BARFOOT 38 • R BURGESS 34

30 APR BARCLAYS BANK SOUTH EAST REGION KINGSWOOD 143

30 APR DOWMILL LIMITED SUNNINGDALE 138

30 APR MURRAY 34 • THORNBURGH 34 • B WEDDELL 37 • B RADCOCK 29

30 APR ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT COPT HEATH 132

30 APR TOBACCO SPECIALISTS A WILSON 35 • B HALEY 32 • J REYNOLDS 22 • B CLARK 22

1 MAY NICS SPORTS ASSOCIATION ROCKMOUNT 143

1 MAY KENNEDY 37 • MURPHY 36 • F MCPHERSON 35 • R BLACK 35

1 MAY GENERALE DES EAUX THE BELFRY 128

1 MAY T SMITH 34 • T COLEMAN 32 • S TOLKOTT 31 • E LINTOTT 31

2 MAY JPS (OFFICE SUPPLIES) LTD MOOR PARK 148

2 MAY COWEN 32 • J COLES 35 • N LAMBERT 31 • R LONG 31

2 MAY CAMERAS CAN CTV LTD DUNMUR 143

2 MAY CORASPRINGS LTD KINROSS 34 • B THOMPSON 30 • B WOOD 30

2 MAY THE VIRTUAL OFFICE GROUP CASTLE ROYALE 137

1 MAY PRINT AT THE BULL LTD HENKETH 129

1 MAY J BURKE 35 • F ELLIS 38 • B LESTER 32 • P PAYNE 31

6 MAY AQUA-RAS NORTHAMPTON 145

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6 MAY CEDAR 37 • N GALLIE 34 • K WOOD 34 • N BROWN 37

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TENNIS

ROME: Italian Open men's tournament: First round: T Muzler (Austria) bt M Martell (SA) 6-3, 6-2, 6-2; Wood (GB) bt D Prinos (GR) 6-3, 6-2, 6-2; G. Razzano (Ital) bt E Reynard-Ford (GB) 6-3, 6-2, 6-2; P. Horwitz (FRA) 6-3, 6-2, 6-2; J. Krajicek (CZE) 6-3, 6-2, 6-2; J. S. Wadoux (BEL) 6-3, 6-2, 6-2; G. Razzano (Ital) bt E. Reynard-Ford (GB) 6-3, 6-2, 6-2; J. Krajicek (CZE) 6-3, 6-2, 6-2; G. Razzano (Ital) bt E. Reynard-Ford (GB) 6-3, 6-2, 6-2; J

Growing challenge underlined by Schumacher's triumph

Ferrari's industry is rewarded

Rob Hughes on how the Italian team got back on track by leading the way in Monte Carlo

Daybreak at Maranello, the Ferrari factory near Bologna. After the deluge of Monte Carlo, the calm and the industry returns to Formula One: even a victory that put Ferrari on top of the constructors' ratings for the first time since 1983 has to be deemed a transient moment after only five of the 17 grands prix have passed.

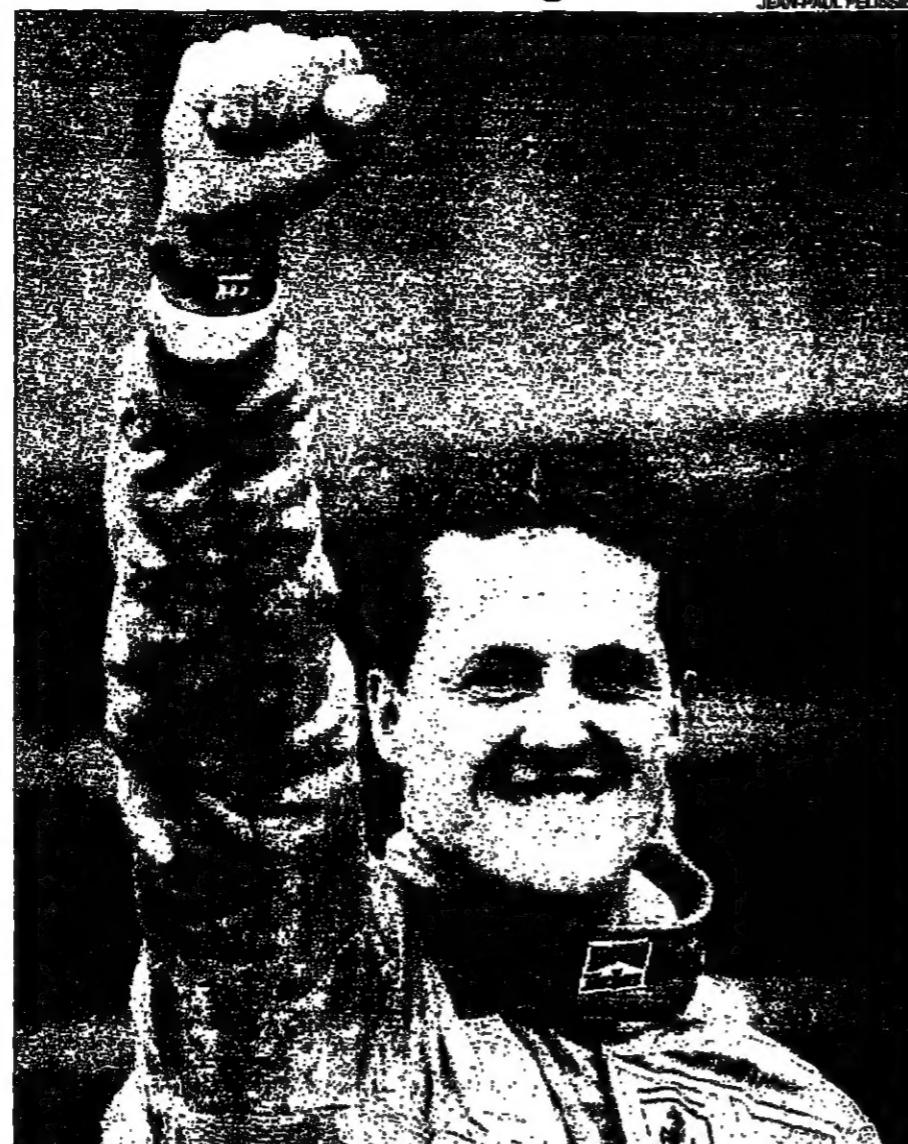
On Sunday evening there had been euphoria, but such feelings soon run out of gas in the ruthless, relentless world of motor racing. "Yesterday gave me very great pleasure," Luca Di Montezemolo, the president of Ferrari, said. "But we have to keep our feet on the ground, the race is not yet won."

Something similar had been said by Jean Todt, the Ferrari race team manager, even as the trophy in Monaco was passed between his drivers. "Before you think of tomorrow, you have to think of today," the diminutive Frenchman said, his hair tousled and his demeanour ruffled after being lifted into an embrace by Michael Schumacher, the winner of the 55th Monaco Grand Prix, and Eddie Irvine, who slid the second scarlet Ferrari into third place.

Todt explained: "It's a long, long way. We have been trying to achieve something together for almost four years, we are slowly getting there, but one day we are heroes, the next we could be nothing. We have to keep our heads clear. I don't expect to be the champion team this year, but hopefully next."

So, from the Italian president of Ferrari down south, to the drivers who are German and Northern Irish and the manager, who is French, there is circumspection.

They all know how fickle grand-prix racing can be. They have only to look at Damon Hill, suffering in his reign as world champion, without a point, without a finish, without a drop of faith



Michael Schumacher, celebrating victory for Ferrari in Monte Carlo, may soon be joined on the podium by his ambitious younger brother, Ralf, below

in his new Arrows team. A \$7 million (about £4.3 million) test driver whose promises appear bankrupt, whose car crashed out on lap two.

Owners of grand-prix cars tend to change drivers quicker than playboys change mistresses, thus the brooding Hill has already been asked time and again this troubled season where he will go next.

The fact of failure in a season not yet half-run. To that, more alarmingly, one can add Benetton, so recently top of the pile. The experienced Benetton drivers, Jean Alesi and Gerhard Berger, are struggling for reliability, for inspiration. Benetton have lost their technical director and designer as well as their



former world champion, Schumacher, to Ferrari (that will teach Flavio Briatore, the Benetton director-general, to steal the Ferrari cook, Luigi). But, the real shift in power in

motor racing, given its turn of the lottery wheel under Monte Carlo's weeping skies, centres on Williams versus Ferrari.

Williams appeared unprofessional in being caught unprepared for the downpour that had been forecast. The track temperature fell from 31°C during the Sunday morning warm-up to 17°C by the 2.30pm race start. Without sufficient rubber, Jacques Villeneuve and Heinz-Harald Frentzen were never at the races.

Indeed, in the driving mirror of the supreme motorist, Michael Schumacher, could be seen, for at least part of the race, an image of the future. It had a familiar look, for Ralf

Schumacher, 21, in his first Formula One series, is handling the Peugeot power of the Jordan in a manner that suggests the day when Schumachers are first and second on the front line of the grid is by no means incredible. Schumacher the younger needs to learn the tricks to shed the French nickname "le chien fou [mad dog]" to follow in his brother's trademarks.

They say lightning never strikes twice, but the rain that turned Monte Carlo into a skid-pan returned twice in successive years. The drive around the houses is surreal enough without this interference, this capricious fall from the heavens. But racing drivers must cope with it and must withstand the sometimes withering tongue of those who rule the sport.

'We have to keep our feet on the ground. The race is not yet won'

When the Stewart team complained about having to put their motorhome and garage high on the hill, they called it Alcatraz. Bernie Ecclestone, the man rumoured to be contemplating floating Formula One racing for £2 billion, retorted: "Stewart always wanted to be close to the royals, I've put him up there."

Just as dross was the put-down from Max Mosley, the president of the FIA, responding to Villeneuve's taunts that motor racing, with its increasing safety precautions, is beginning to lose the fun and the challenge. "Jacques suggests that all racing drivers were mediocre until he came along ...," the president of the sport's governing body said.

Harsh words and harsh

swiss and turns in the

championship. For the record, Michael Schumacher believes that Williams might outpower Ferrari at the next grand prix, the Spanish, in Barcelona, but warns that Ferrari are preparing improvements that should come before the Montreal race next month.

EQUESTRIANISM

Designer finds the right pitch

BY JENNY MACARTHUR

IF TEEMING rain, which reduced attendance to just below the usual 200,000, and Ian Stark's showjumping debacle on Stanwick Ghost, which handed victory to David O'Connor, were the less rewarding memories of the Mitsubishi Motors Badminton Horse Trials last week, the sheer brilliance of the cross-country riding on Saturday was undoubtedly the highlight.

With the strongest field in the 48-year history of the event, the standard was always going to be high. Forty-five of the 76 horses who set out had no jumping penalties — including three young Swedish riders all competing for the first time. Helped by the going, 16 riders were clear inside the time — almost double the usual number.

It was not that the course was easy, more that the riders have become so good. When the sixth fence, the set of corners called the Mitsubishi M, was first introduced three years ago it prompted numerous run-outs. This year there was one. Similarly with the Vicarage Vee, the biggest corner (3ft 11in) allowed under the rules and once deemed Badminton's most frightening fence. This year only two riders failed there.

When a "bounce" fence into The Lake was first introduced most riders chose the easier option. This year — when, admittedly, it was a more forgiving lake complex with shallower water and no jump out — most opted for the bounce. Only eight riders made mistakes.

The increased skill of the riders highlights the course designer's dilemma. Make it too demanding, as Hugh Thomas thinks he did last year at The Lake, and you risk "inevitable falls", a course designer's nightmare. Make it too straightforward and the influence of the cross country on the overall event is diminished.

This year Thomas appeared to pitch it right: a genuine four-star track.

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TELEVISION CHOICE

A gamble worth the risk

Home Ground: Deadly Inheritance
BBC2, 7.30pm

The first in a series of documentaries from the BBC regions tells how a potential cancer victim decided on a brave and radical remedy. Julia Booth, in her late thirties with three young daughters, comes from a family where breast cancer has been common. It killed her mother at 43 and genetic tests suggest an 85 per cent chance that Booth will inherit the disease. She is determined to see her children grow up and although perfectly healthy at the moment, she decides to have both her breasts removed. Doubts and complications follow, as differing medical advice puts Booth first one way and then another, but she finally opts for a double mastectomy with reconstructive surgery. Made with tact and sensitivity, even when it enters the operating theatre, the film concludes on an optimistic note.

Moving People

Channel 4, 8.00pm

As moving home is supposed to lie not far behind bereavement on the scale of distress, there is an element of Schadenfreude in watching other people going through it. The impression is that John Peel's chirpy links delivered from a rustic paradise he clearly has no intention of leaving. Sure enough, the main point of tonight's first story is the frustration of last-minute hitches as the moving date gets put back and back. But credit the show with variety. Three runs leaving a 200-year-old priory in Whithby for council flats in Dundee is one of those quirky stories that never fail, while the mood changes abruptly in following a young Cornishman's move from a house to a bungalow. He is doing it for his wife, who is disabled with spinal cancer. But he knows she may not live to see their new home.

Touching Evil

ITV, 9.00pm

When Ronald Hinks, the child killer, was found dead in last week's episode that seemed to close the case. But do not be too sure. This is a show that likes to leave loose ends. Meanwhile our serial crime busters move on to a fresh challenge. Hardly have the opening credits rolled than three patients



Prince Michael presents (ITV, times vary)

have died mysteriously within half an hour of each other at a London hospital. With near-death experiences at its heart, this proves to be a scenario well out of the usual run, so full marks to the writer, Paul Abbott, for ingenuity. The pity is that he has not made his detectives as interesting as his plots. Members of the Robson Green fan club will disagree, but Di Cregan is not a Jack Frost. Nor has Nicola Walker, so good in the disappointing *Chalk*, so far been able to make much of DI Taylor.

Victoria and Albert

ITV, times vary

What a member of the Royal Family turns television presenter, you want to know how good he is and what insights he brings to his subject. Although a trifle stiff and formal, Prince Michael of Kent is a worthy guide to the lives of his great grandparents, Queen Victoria and Prince Albert. Tonight's film, the first of two, concentrates on Albert. Apart from showing a previously unseen photograph, Prince Michael mainly recapitulates familiar material. But he reminds us of what an admirable figure Albert was. He inspired the Great Exhibition, built Osborne House and rebuilt Balmoral. He sorted out the Army after the Crimean War disasters and showed practical concern for the poor. Although his marriage to Victoria was arranged, it became a love match. She adored him and was devastated by his early death.

Peter Waymark

RADIO CHOICE

The Spud Unjacketed

Radio 2, 9.30pm

Students of media fashion will be aware that nobody ever won a Sony award by making a programme about a potato, so which I can only add: more's the pity. This programme is terrible, especially for people with the habit of introducing obscure facts at parties. Not a lot of people know this, but German V-2 rockets were fuelled by a mixture of potato spirit and poison. There is a United States newsletter called Peeling, for potato lovers everywhere; not a lot of people know that, either. Tonight's programme is presented by John Walters, who has more or less cornered the market in wacky informative programmes both radio and television. His "well I never" tone of voice fits happily with the listeners' reaction.

RADIO 1

7.00am Mark Radcliffe 6.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Jo Whiley 11.30 Nicky Campbell 4.00 Kevin Greening 3.00 Newsbeat 6.30 Evening Session 4.30 Digital Update with Rachel Heywood 4.00 John Peel 5.00 Mary Anne Hobbs 1.00pm Chair Surgeons 4.00 Clive Wearing

RADIO 2

6.00am Sarah Kennedy 7.20 Wake Up to Wiggin 9.00 Ken Lester 11.20 Jimmy Young 1.30pm Debbie Thrower 3.00 Alex Lester 5.00 John Dunn 7.30 Alan Freeman: Their Greatest Hits 8.00 John Peel 9.00 Mary Anne Hobbs 1.00pm Chair Surgeons 4.00 Clive Wearing

RADIO 3

6.00am Mark Radcliffe 7.00 Simon Mayo 8.00 Jo Whiley 11.30 Newsbeat 9.00 Chair Surgeons 10.00 Newsbeat 11.30 Evening Session 12.00 Literature 1.00 Sports 1.30 Keep To The Path 4.30 News in German 5.00 Europe Today 8.30 Business 8.45 Britain Today 8.15 World Today 8.30 News in German 8.45 News in French 8.30 One World 8.45 News in German 10.00 Business 10.15 Britain Today 10.30 Midweek Live 11.30 World Today 11.45 Sport 12.00am Outlook 12.30 Megastar 1.30 Farming 1.45 Business 1.45 Britain Today 2.30 Discovery 3.00 Midweek Live 4.05 Business 4.15 Sport 4.30 Europe Today

Murray Walker's Grand Prix World

Radio 5 Live, 9.00pm

Formula One motor racing is a distinctly odd sport, thus it is only fitting that its public voice should belong to the distinctive (if not odd) Murray Walker. Hyperbole is, of course, the stock in trade of most sports commentators, but Walker is the only one who manages to speak in capital letters and jolts us at the same time with a verbal exclamation marks thrown in at the end of every sentence. But this programme fits in a six-part series bringing us more reflective Walker and demonstrating that beyond the much-maligned voice is a man with a thorough knowledge of motor racing and its personalities. He is certainly an enthusiast, but the enthusiasm is supported by real understanding.

Peter Waymark

WORLD SERVICE

All times in BST. News on the hour. 7.00am NewsHour 8.30 Europe Today 7.15 World Today 7.30 Anatomy of Addiction 8.15 On the Shelf 8.30 Touched by Fire 8.45 Good Relationship Guide 9.10 Pastoral Thought 9.15 Keep To The Path 10.00 News in German 10.30 News in French 11.30 Business 12.30 Literature 1.00 Sports 1.30 On Screen 12.30am Anatomy of Addiction 1.00 News in German 1.30 Business 1.15 Britain Today 1.30 Health Matters 1.45 Sport 2.00 2.00am Radio 5 Outlook 3.30 Multitask 4.05 Sport 4.15 Keep To The Path 4.45 News in German 5.00 Europe Today 8.30 Business 8.45 Britain Today 8.15 World Today 8.30 News in German 8.45 News in French 9.00 One World 9.15 News in German 10.00 Business 10.15 Britain Today 10.30 Midweek Live 11.30 World Today 11.45 Sport 12.00am Outlook 12.30 Megastar 1.30 Farming 1.45 Business 1.45 Britain Today 2.30 Discovery 3.00 Midweek Live 4.05 Business 4.15 Sport 4.30 Europe Today

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths 7.00 Miles Reid 9.00 Hall of Fame Hour 10.00 Radio 3 1.00am Concerto 3.00 James Crichton 7.00 Newsflight 7.20 Sonata 8.00 Singapore 9.00 Evening Concert 10.00 Liang-Yoon Lin (Glossco-Lampergarni); Mozart (Piano Concerto No 23 in A major, K488); Verdi (The Four Seasons); Joplin-Kravitz (Symphony No 1 in E minor, Op 10); 10.45 Michael Mappin 2.00am Concerto

VIRGIN RADIO

5.00am Russ 7.15 John 10.00 Graham Dene 1.00pm Jeremy Clark 4.00 Nicky Home 6.00 Paul Coyle (FHM) / Robin Banks (AM) 10.00 Mark Forrest 2.00am Randal Lee Ross

RADIO 3

4.00am On Air, with Andrew McGregor; Includes Mozart (Symphony No 40 in G minor); Debussy (La Damoiselle Éveil); Shostakovich (Prelude and Fugue, Op 87); Tchaikovsky (Suite Idaho); Rachmaninov (Cradle Song); Stravinsky (Petrouchka); Brahms (Piano Concerto in G minor); Wolf (Liebestraum); Liszt (Liebestraum); Dvorák (Czech Melodies); Prokofiev (Violin Concerto No 1); Lézzi (Valse d'Oliveremann); Bock (One of Anna's Dances)

7.30 Live at Tenness Stage, Paul Guiney introduces the third in a series of five recitals from the Turner Collection in Bath, featuring Joachim Rönsdorf (Violin Concerto in G minor); Joachim Rönsdorf (Violin Concerto in F major); 8.10 The Magic Flute; James Hamilton-Peterson (Sinfonietta, Op 26); 9.30 Conversations with Charles Rosen; Ivan Hewitt talks to the American pianist and author about the music he loves and discusses playing Bach at the piano (20)

10.00 Ulster Orchestra, under Donald Corp, with Raphael Wallfisch, cello; Debussy, orch Caplet (Golliwog's Cakewalk); Suite Children's Corner; Prokofiev (Chopiniana); Mendelssohn (Sinfonietta, La Jolla); 10.45 New Music, with Steve Reich and Philip Glass; Jean Baudrillard, who accuse the media of destroying a sense of reality; Plus the latest news from the Cannes Film Festival

11.30 Composer of the Week: Stravinsky. Richard Niles presents the the 100th anniversary of the great musical director and actor from Russia, Nikolai Stravinsky

1.00 Through the Night, with Donald MacLeod. Includes 1.00 Festivals Quartet, Haydn (String Quartet in D minor, Op 9 No 4); 1.45 Organ recital by Gard Zacher's

2.00 News 7.05 The Anchors 7.20 File on 4: A Bit of Company, by Colin Greenland, Read by Karyn Shilo 8.00 Shipping Forecast 8.30 6.30 Weather

8.30 Minor Adjustment. The third episode of the six-part series, mostly about a family with a daughter who has Down's syndrome. Written by Andy and Eric Mennell, Starring Peter Davison, Samantha Bond and Claire Russell (r)

7.00 News 7.05 The Anchors 7.20 File on 4: A Bit of Company, by Colin Greenland, Read by Karyn Shilo 8.00 Shipping Forecast 8.30 6.30 Weather

English patience, from a different angle

What we do know about fishermen is this: they get up very early; they envelop themselves in thrift-shop clothing which, by international angling law, must include a garment with at least 28 pockets for storing emergency fishing items; they fill up a few tubs with five bugs which they keep in their fridge, but which you and I would call Rentokil to deal with; then they drive 70 miles to sit on a rainy riverbank and wait patiently for that rewarding moment when they finally catch a whopping dose of pneumonia. What we still don't know is why fishermen do all this when nobody is actually pointing a gun at them, or threatening to maim their first-born.

How is it that millions have been hooked by this hobby? If you believe Tales from the Riverbank (BBC2), it's because fishing helped to bring joy to people before Prozac came along. "If you want to be

happy," advised Geoffrey Palmer in last night's opening programme of the six-part series, "learn to fish." This, apparently, they used to say in Ancient China. Look where it got them. Plenty of Hong Kong Chinese may be anxious to get their hands on a British passport, but you don't get the feeling it's because they all want to rush down to the Test to catch some trout.

Any other suggestions? A roach fisherman confesses to Palmer, our genial riverbank guide: "I love fishing. It gets me away from the wife... the dragon." Another bewitched angler explains that "A person doesn't go fishing. He obeys a summons." Palmer himself stumbles upon something when he wonders aloud: "How can something so frustrating be so universally popular?" Because, strangely, it is often the very things that are maddeningly frustrating which turn out to be popular (Paul

Daniels excepted). But is that enough to explain why the Queen Mother and Jimmy Carter and Jeremy Paxman and Sting are all so entranced by fly-fishing?

Frankly, the mystery for us non-fishermen merely thickened when we read in this newspaper recently about the man who tied a salmon fly using his wife's public hair. He may well have caught a shoal of fish with it, but isn't it a little spooky that he actually thought of doing this in the first place? Is this the way all great innovators leap ahead? (Microsoft boffin: "We've still got glitches on the new software program, Bill." Bill Gates: "Whaddya say we tie a public hair onto the floppy drive?")

The filming is up to the usual standards of the BBC's Natural History Unit in Bristol, including dazzling underwater footage of perch, tench and roach pouting about between the rocks,

REVIEW

Joe Joseph



trying to avoid baited hooks that are swaying hypnotically before their eyes, like metronomes. In keeping with its subject, the film moves at a languid pace: if you're the fidgety type who lacks the patience to spend a whole day trying to catch an itty-bitty perch, video the programme and watch it on fast forward.

For those who like their fish-TV

served on a bigger, brasher scale, Bernice Cohen is still trawling the shark-infested waters of the City in Mrs Cohen's Money (Channel 4), reeling in any corporate predator that she feels is making sushi out of defenceless, financially gullible minnows.

Mrs Cohen was focusing on savings and on how we must all put something aside for our old age: she means something in addition to our fantasy about winding up in your parents' home as Isabelle Adjani.

This week's victim was George Mack, finance director of United Friendly, which had sold a pension plan to Bernice's cab-driver, Phil, who earns £24,000 a year and lives in East London with his wife Jackie and their young daughter, Courtney. Motormouth Bernice ("I had that Phil in the front of my cab once") thought the policy stank like an old kipper. "At the end of Year One," she tells Phil, squatting at the small print, "total paid to date

is £600. Total actual deductions to date are £628." Phil, who likes receiving tips, but isn't so keen about giving one to his pension firm, felt duped. His wife Jackie lifted her jaw off the carpet and shrieked: "It's disgusting."

Mrs Cohen can't believe how apathetic we are about making our money grow: "I find it truly depressing." She is like your Jewish grandmother, who instead of asking you if you're eating enough, or whether you have a warm vest on, nags solicitously about whether you are providing properly for your old age. Don't be surprised if you start seeing a national chain of Grandma Cohen Financial Advice Bureaux, serving chicken soup and Tessa.

Aian Bleasdale's latest baby, *Melissa*, is a homage to thriller writer Francis Durbridge's original 1960s television script, translated to modern

times and gussied up with a "prequel". In one of its grand scheduling flourishes, Channel 4 is showing all five parts at 9pm: Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of this week, with the final two episodes going out next week. So far the stars are Jennifer Ehle, who performs wonders as Melissa; Tim Burton, who falls helplessly in love with *Melissa* on his return cruise trip to London from his posting in South Africa — sparkle far more than the script.

Four people died, more or less randomly, in last night's curtain-raiser. We weren't given the tiniest hint why, making it much more of a mystery than a thriller so far: we haven't been told enough yet to be sucked to the edge of our seats. For a thriller, *Melissa* seems strangely slow. Maybe, as with fishing, patience is eventually rewarded.

6.00am Business Breakfast (8110)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (93986)

9.00 Breakfast News Extra (T) (310348)

9.20 Style Challenge (657166)

9.45 Kilroy (782631)

10.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (18058)

11.00 News (T) and weather (774008)

11.05 The Great Escape (710705)

11.35 Change That (8568412)

12.00 News (T) and weather (837732)

12.05pm Call My Bluff (801543)

12.35 Going for a Song (956435)

1.00 News (T) and weather (96355)

1.30 Regional News (8679038)

1.40 The Weather Show (9996345)

1.45 Neighbours (T) (808807)

2.10 Quirky (T) (655139)

2.25 Through the Keyhole (5387232)

3.20 Stepper on Style: Ethnic styles, (6421503)

3.30 Mouse and Mole (722575) 3.35

Playdays (6773223) 3.50 Arthur (2393771) 4.20 Julia Jekyll and Harriet Hyde (7515394) 4.35 Round the Twist (1352503) 5.00 Newsround (T) (810435)

5.10 Activ 8: New series (T) (6389961)

5.35 Neighbours (T) (403394)

6.00 News (T) and weather (961)

6.30 Regional News (313)

7.00 Holiday: Fasten Your Seatbelts (T) (1619)

7.30 EastEnders: Lorraine's world comes crashing down around her ears (T) (597)

8.00 Children's Hospital: Teenage burn victim Martin Stowell takes his first steps after having his big toe amputated and painful skin-grafts (T) (4139)

8.30 Goodnight Sweetheart: Soggy has its problems as Gary rapidly discovers (T) (8974)

9.00 News (T) and weather (5226)

9.30 One Foot in the Grave: A lazy day messing about on the water turns into a nautical nightmare (T) (49416)

10.00 Crimewatch UK: Hems Hempstead police appeal for help in catching the man who brutally assaulted a woman. Plus: two carbon-copy armed robberies in Southwark, Sussex, six months apart (615957)

10.45 The Beast of Lenny Henry (T) (184226)

11.15 Film 97 with Barry Norman: Reviews of *Anacrona*, with Jon Voight and Eric Stoltz; Oscar-winning films *Kolya* and *When We Were Kings*; Robin Williams, Morgan Freeman and Stockard Channing in *Million Dollar Plus*; Stephen Fry on *Oscar Wilde* (181139)

11.45 Crimewatch UK Update (377400)

11.55 The Public Eye (1992) Joe Pasini stars in a romantic drama directed by Howard Franklin as a lonely New York tabloid photographer whose encounter with glamorous nightclub owner Barbara Havers leads to the discovery of a government scandal (808503)

1.30pm Weather (3107530)

VideoPlus+ and the VideoPlus Codes

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6.00am Open University: Rome Under the Popes (849503) 6.25 La Bonne Forme (837510) 6.30 The Leaping Horse by John Constable (8886203) 7.15 See Hear Breakfast News (758313) 7.30 Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (9079665) 7.55 Blue Peter (T) (106023) 8.20 Juniper Jungle (8920661) 8.35 The Raccoons (3161597) 9.00 Study Ireland (10415) 9.30 Space Ark: The Environment (740340) 9.45 Watch (740855) 10.00 Telebabies (51348) 10.30 Come Outside (6754053) 10.45 Science Zone (471490) 11.00 Space Ark (7658023) 11.15 Go for It! (303643) 11.30 Sportsbeat (6801) 12.00 See Hear! (T) (27752)

12.30pm Working Lunch (54394) 1.00 Teaching Today (94597) 1.30 The Bible in Animation (53865) 2.00 Juniper Jungle (1053064)

2.10 The Fugitive (1947, b/w) Henry Fonda stars as a priest who defies anti-clerical

authorities in a small Latin-American country and continues his work among the peasants. Directed by John Ford (855684)

3.55 News (T) (5504503) 4.00 Blockbusters (5147832) 4.25 Ready, Steady, Cook (542139) 4.55 Esther: Eating Disorders (1316855) 5.30 Today's the Day (890) 6.00 The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air (426771) 6.25 Heartbreak High (503145)

7.10 The O Zone (88503)

Julia and her young family (7.30pm)

7.30 Home Ground A new series

of documentaries begins with Julia Booth, a 39-year-old mother of three, making a traumatic medical decision that could save her life (T) (139)

8.00 Two Fat Ladies Jennifer Peterson and Clarissa Dickson Wright prepare fish pie in Mervyn's in Cornwall (T) (5481)

8.30 Food and Drink George Melly celebrates black pudding and Jilly Goolden and Oz Clarke taste vintage wines from the northern hemisphere (T) (7415)

9.00 Murder One A number of prosecution

witnesses offer damning testimony against Latrell (T) (70765)

9.45 Bloom or Bust? A look at how the Laura Ashley company plans to revamp its image after sales have dramatically dropped since the boom of the 1980s (565894)

10.28 Video Nation Shorts (64090)

10.30 Newsnight (T) (47674)

11.15 Ruby Mi Xie chats to John Simpson and Eve Arnold (172223)

11.55 The Phil Silvers Show (T) (b/w) (562481)

12.30am Learning Zone: Open University: Blue Haven (T) (47563) 1.00 Ecological Predictions (T) (12917) 1.30 Graphs, Networks and Design (28056) 2.00 The Experimenter/Space Ark (72725) 4.00 BBC Focus: Teaching and Learning with IT (54443) 4.30 Teaching and Learning with IT Special (39882) 5.00 Inside Europe (79714) 5.30 Film Education

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FOOTBALL 47

Sprint king keeping
Chelsea on track
down road to Wembley

SPORT

TUESDAY MAY 13 1997

Captain passes first test as Australians hit the ground running

Fluent Taylor sets Ashes tone

By ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

ALL those who seek to belittle the Ashes, to strip them of their traditional pre-eminence, should have been in Mayfair yesterday morning. The first sight and sound of the 1997 Australians would have convinced them of their folly.

It was not what they said but the way that they said it. It was not who was there but the way that they looked and listened. There is still no series in cricket quite like it, no contest that creates such anticipation, such instantly obvious glamour. Even allowing for the diplomacy demanded by the occasion, it was plain that Mark Taylor and his men shared the feeling.

They were just off a flight from Hong Kong, where they had stopped to stretch their legs with an exhibition game, but this Australia side, loyal to

its modern ethos, was out to make the right impression from the start. Years ago, when image was not deemed so important, their predecessors may have arrived looking unkempt and sounding unapproachable. Today, this would not do. Heavens, they are even sponsored by Coca-Cola rather than some unpalatable lager.

The players filed into the hotel conference room wearing sharp grey suits and ties. They were clean-shaven and remarkably bright-eyed. They also spoke with a friendly lucidity beyond the scope or desire of too many English contemporaries. It is not only in performance that England have fallen behind.

Taylor must long ago have worried of questions about his bating form and how long he can remain captain without an improvement therein. Shane Warne, equally, is entitled to feel that he has exhausted the subject of his worn spinning finger, but you could sense no scorn, no impatience, from their smiling responses.

In his eager, upbeat style,



Warne, the likely scourge of England this summer, faced up to a media interrogation upon landing yesterday with charm and courtesy

Taylor reiterated his belief that he remained a good opening batsman and that his form would return. He was, he said, setting himself no deadlines. "I will be the captain until the selectors, and I am one of them, decide to leave me out," he said.

He reminisced about the 1989 tour, on which he had endured such a lean start that "for a time, all I could think of was September 9 and going

home. Then, at Taunton, I was dropped on eight and went on to make a hundred. That's how quickly it can turn around.

"In the three weeks since we left South Africa, I have worked on the mental side. I was probably a bit stale, so I've been fishing, relaxing, just doing what I want to do. The only time I have picked up a bat was two days ago, when I packed it in my case."

Warne, as ever, was the magnet. As the formal part of the morning concluded, he was surrounded by a scrum of cameras, microphones, nodding television interviewers and furiously scribbling journalists. It was no sweat. Cricket has enjoyed few more natural celebrities.

He made his statements

sporting a gold ring in his left ear rather than his more discreet stud, and wearing designer boots rather than formal shoes, but Warne would stand out anyway. He held court naturally, spoke articulately and, without being arrogant, just roll out onto the pavements of Bond Street and pose with Taylor for some corny pictures alongside a London telephone box. It was

a model exercise in public relations and all England players, who know how aggressively different Warne can be as an opponent, would have ground their teeth at the charm of it.

Warne knows well enough

how to play the media game; how to raise a laugh, how to speak brightly without betraying secrets. Asked whether England might learn "any new tricks" from the videos of

him that they are due to study, he responded, in mock alarm: "It depends what videos he is watching." Quizzed on his recent injuries, he gave a detailed account of his return to "about 95 per cent" of full fitness.

"South Africa, I bowled really, really well," he said. "I feel I am on the verge of something special here." And, because it was the time and place to say so, he expanded on his

views of England — "our most prestigious tour" — the best wicket" etc.

It was a constantly repeated theme. Stephen Waugh, the new vice-captain, has a genuine love affair with this country. It does not extend to being nice to England's cricketers once a game is under way, for then there is no more uncompromising an opponent, but Waugh believes that this is the finest country in which to play the game and, now that he has a role as a spokesman, he intends to say so.

"This is always the best series of all, no matter whether we are the two best teams or not," he said. "England is like a second home to most of us and we find the crowds are appreciative. If you hit a four here, you will certainly get a clap, which is a bit different to a lot of other places."

The first claps, probably many of them, will be heard at Arundel on Thursday. Two days of net practice at Lord's precedes this opening fixture, but the Australians were not being allowed an idle first day.

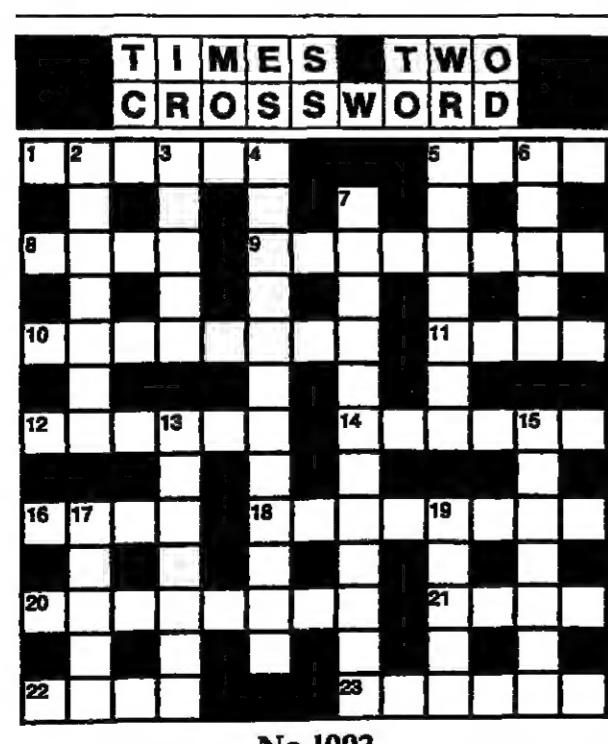
"This afternoon, we will have a session in the gym," Alan Crompton, the tour manager, announced. Warne, for the first and only time, looked less than delighted to be here.

AUSTRALIAN TOUR ITINERARY

MAY
Thur 15: v Duke of Norfolk's XI at Arundel (one day)
Sat 17: v Northamptonshire (one day)
Sun 18: v Worcestershire (one day)
Tue 20: v Nottinghamshire (one day)
The 22-14 Texaco Trophy One-Day International at Headingley
Sat 24: 2nd Texaco Trophy One-Day International at the Oval
Sun 25: 2nd Texaco Trophy One-Day International at Lord's
Tue 27-Thu 29: v Gloucestershire or Sussex, or Surrey (3 days) depending on outcome of B and H Cup qualifying on Sunday
Sat 31-Mon Jun 2: v Derbyshire (3 days)
JUNE
Tue 3-Man 8: 1st Cornhill Test Match at Edgbaston
Wed 11-Fri 13: v First-class county TBC (3 days) depending on qualification for B and H Cup semi-finals
Sat 14-Man 16: v Leicestershire (3 days)
Thu 19-Man 22: 2nd Cornhill Test Match at Lord's

AUGUST
Fri 1-Man 4: v Somerset (4 days)
The 1-Man 11: 5th Cornhill Test Match at Trent Bridge
Sat 16-Man 18: v Kent (3 days)
Thu 21-Man 22: 6th Cornhill Test Match at the Oval

TOUR PARTY: M A Taylor (captain), S R Waugh (vice-captain), M G Bevan, A J Birch, G S Blewett, M T G Elliott, A C Gollan, M S Goss, J L Graveney, J. H. McGrath, R T Ponting, M J Storer, M E Waugh, S K Warne



No 1092

ACROSS
1 Unoccupied (6)
5 Spoonful of medicine (4)
8 Emile — Germinal author (4)
9 Reckless hooligan (8)
10 Mix into water (8)
11 Versifier (4)
12 Likely source of harm (6)
14 Aircraft shed (6)
16 Frothy sweet MPs' instructions (4)
18 A midget (3,5)
20 Man sitting under sword (8)
21 Smallest piglet (4)
22 Religious splinter-group (4)
23 Informal (6)
SOLUTION TO NO 1091
ACROSS: 1 Miss World, 6 Pub, 8 Uptight, 9 Clean Heir, 11 Brandish, 13 Mighty, 14 Behind, 17 Hard copy, 18 Comb, 20 Farwz, 21 Ulysses, 22 Shy, 23 Eagle-eyed
DOWN: 1 Maughan, 2 Sitting pretty, 3 Wage, 4 Retire, 5 Decanter, 6 Precipitously, 7 Bunch, 12 Stockade, 15 Debased, 16 Spring, 17 Hulls, 19 Type

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